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## Money

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## Iran warns Israel over pact with Turkey

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

IRAN has warned Israel against using a military accord with Turkey to strike at Tehran, saying it would retaliate if attacked, a newspaper reported yesterday.

"It is not believed that Turkey poses a threat against us, but we are watching our enemies' slightest moves and will use our retaliatory capacities if necessary," air force deputy commander Gen. Shahram Rostami was quoted by the daily *Iran* as saying.

Rostami was commenting on the military cooperation agreement concluded between Turkey and Israel in February which allows each country to use the other's airspace for pilot training.

Iranian newspapers have carried Western press reports of some Israeli officials suggesting the possibility of an air strike against Iran's nuclear sites.

Rostami said Iran's air force would stage major war games to display its power and evaluate its combat readiness.

Western military experts have said Tehran has tried to develop a long-range strike force by acquiring Russian-built Sukhoi Su-24 fighter planes in a program to overhaul its air force after the end of the 1980-1988 Iran-Iraq war. Meanwhile, Jordan's air force commander, speaking as US air crews ended a training mission, said yesterday in Azraq he looked forward to the day when Jordan would be able to hold joint exercises with the Turkish and Israeli air forces.

Gen. Mohammed Ababneh told a news conference at the base in Jordan where American forces were just ending a three-month mission that joint training with Turkey was possible once the two countries agreed they would both benefit.

He said joint air exercises with Israel would depend on progress in the peace process, but he favored the idea.

It was also announced at the press conference that the F-16 jets Jordan purchased from the United States will not be improved by Israel Aircraft Industries and then sent to Jordan as originally planned. Instead, they will be improved in the U.S.

## Kfar Sava man tries to kill daughters, then kills himself

RAINE MARCUS

A Kfar Sava man killed himself yesterday after attempting to murder his two teenage daughters. The girls, 14 and 17, suffered light neck wounds.

The man's neighbors heard screams coming from his apartment early yesterday morning. A neighbor broke in and found the girls in bed choking, with plastic cuffs tied around their necks. The neighbor succeeded in releasing the cuffs, and the girls were brought to Meir Hospital.

Residents called police, who launched a search for the father, who had fled. His body was found hanging in a nearby field by his 21-year-old son. Full report, Page 12

# Netanyahu: The choice is peace or terror

## PM to Christopher: We'll talk to PA in coming days

DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday pledged to US Secretary of State Warren Christopher that he would hold a dialogue with the Palestinian Authority "in the coming days." But he gave no indication when and under what conditions he would meet with PA Chairman Yasser Arafat or order an IDF redeployment in Hebron.

According to officials in the Prime Minister's Office, Netanyahu told Christopher privately that when talks with the PA are held, the first item on the agenda will be PA action against terrorism.

One official denied that this constitutes a precondition. "Terror is not a precondition for holding talks, but rather the issue of terror is pivotal for progress on peace."

However, a senior Clinton administration official said Netanyahu did not say that the terrorism issue be resolved before other peace process questions could be addressed. Other sources said US officials asked a series of questions on how the new government will handle a variety of peace process-related issues, but received few answers.

Netanyahu suggested the dialogue would be held by diplomatic adviser Dore Gold and top Arafat aide Mahmoud Abbas.

There is speculation that Netanyahu agreed to provide answers to both questions - Arafat and Hebron - when he meets President Bill Clinton at the White House on July 9. In an unusual step, Netanyahu's office issued a statement saying that Israel needs time before it provides answers on specific peace issues.

On the plane en route here, Christopher reportedly said he would urge Israel to establish an unspecified dialogue with Arafat and adhere to the international commitment to an IDF pullback in Hebron.

Yesterday's meeting gave each side an opportunity to break the ice amid a widespread belief that the Clinton administration showed

public support for Shimon Peres. Moreover, Netanyahu is known to be piqued that he was denied a White House meeting with Clinton during the four years he led the opposition.

Netanyahu and Christopher spent about an hour in one-on-one talks, fueling speculation they agreed to start a new chapter. Moreover, in the private setting, Christopher would have been most likely to brief Netanyahu on secret aspects of the Israel-Syria talks.

After their meeting, the two moved to broader talks, which included Foreign Minister David Levy, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, US special Middle East peace coordinator Dennis Ross, and Ambassador Martin Indyk.

Christopher also held separate talks with Levy yesterday.

After a reception in Christopher's honor at the King David Hotel last night, he and Netanyahu dined with select aides.

In an apparent gesture to Netanyahu while standing alongside him during their press conference, Christopher used two phrases favored by Netanyahu: "peace and security" and holding peace talks "without preconditions." This was not lost on officials at the Prime Minister's Office.

"Terrorism is incompatible in the advancement of peace," said Netanyahu. "It's either terrorism or peace - you cannot have both."

While Christopher said that peace is not possible without security, he added: "Security without peace is impossible."  
"There are many problems in search of peace between the PA and Israel," Netanyahu said. "But, the lack of communication will not be one of them. We will expand the channels and the dialogue."  
Netanyahu also said Israel wants to resume peace talks with Syria and Lebanon.

"I told Secretary Christopher we're studying the issue of Hebron," he added. "The security problem in Hebron is cardinal. It's very serious, very complex, and very complicated."



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu escorts US Secretary of State Warren Christopher into their private meeting at the PM's office yesterday. (Brian Heffler)

## Levy angered by FM official's attempt to set up meeting with Arafat

FOREIGN Minister David Levy yesterday instructed Ilan Baruch, director of the ministry's Autonomy Division, to immediately sever all contact with representatives of the Palestinian Authority. Levy sought clarification of Baruch's efforts to arrange a meeting between him and PA President Yasser Arafat.

In recent weeks, Baruch - whose role is to coordinate political, security, and economic matters with the PA - met several times with PA security heads Mohammed Dahlan and Jibril Rajoub and other members of the PA's security apparatus. In several of those meetings, he apparently tried to sound them out on the possibility of a Levy-Arafat meeting. Dahlan and Rajoub were reported to be interested in such a meeting.

Baruch reported some of the contents of these meetings to his superiors, but sources said he never reported on his attempts to arrange a Levy-Arafat meeting. Levy, it seems, had never given permission for the effort, and only learned of it after the fact. (Itim)

## Husseini: Arafat, to meet with Netanyahu soon

BILL HUTMAN

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat will likely meet "within a month," because there is no choice if the peace process is to get back on track, Faisal Husseini, the senior PLO official in Jerusalem, said yesterday.

"We must start a direct dialogue again," Husseini told *The Jerusalem Post* at Orient House, the PLO headquarters in Jerusalem.

"I don't know if Mr. Arafat likes Mr. Netanyahu; I don't know whether Mr. Arafat likes Mr. Netanyahu," Husseini said. "But this is not important. We are talking about politics. And in politics, you can't decide for the other side about his own leadership."

"It is not up to Mr. Arafat to accept Mr. Netanyahu, and Mr. Netanyahu to accept Mr. Arafat. It is a must [that they accept each other]," he added.

Husseini said he thinks there will be an Arafat-Netanyahu meeting in "a matter of weeks. I hope in a number of days. But for sure in less than a month. I think that meeting must take place here... Maybe on the border, at Erez, for example."

Husseini did not rule out the two leaders meeting abroad. "It would also be good to have it in Washington. But the point is that we start talking again directly. If this means going to Washington. Why not?" he said. "From our side there is no difficulty in taking such a step. It is difficult for Mr. Netanyahu to have such a meeting," Husseini said.

On the matter of Orient House, Husseini said he does not

believe Netanyahu will carry through his threat to close the PLO headquarters. If he did so, PLO operations in Jerusalem would simply be moved elsewhere in the city, Husseini said.

"Every house can be the Orient House. I can have visitors here. If the Israelis will forbid it in this house, the first door I knock on, they will let me in, and we will meet there," Husseini said. "Our house is not the building. Our house is the spirit of Jerusalem."

Husseini also categorically denied reports originating in the Prime Minister's Office on Monday that Israel applied pressure on officials at Orient House to cancel a meeting that day involving PA officials. He reiterated that the meeting was moved to another location, because renovation work at Orient House had caused a power outage.

"There is no limit on who we can see in the Orient House," said Husseini. However, he said he agrees with the government that the peace accords forbid PA activity there and insisted none was taking place.

"It doesn't matter whether the Likud or Labor is in the government. In the end there will be a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," Husseini said.

He also offered a "formula" for peace: "Israel wants full security, and full security means full control, and full control means full authority. Whoever has authority has control. Whoever has control, can give security. If Israel wants security, then it must give us full authority and full control, so there can be full security."

## Day of tragedy on roads leaves 5 dead

YOCHI DREAZEN and Itim

FIVE persons were killed and 23 injured - six of them critically - in road accidents throughout the country yesterday. The day's toll brought to 12 the number of those killed on the roads since Monday morning.

Kiryat Gat residents Ilan Tal, 41, and Radislav Dvaydov, 16, were killed and seven others injured, when their car was struck by a truck around 5:30 a.m. yesterday. One of the injured was listed in critical condition in Beersheba's Soroka Hospital.

A 21-year-old Revaya man was in critical condition with head injuries after he lost control of his car and it overturned in the morning at the entrance to Moshav Menahemya in the Jordan Valley.

Kiryat Gat resident Nissim Yakar was killed and five others were injured, one critically, when he lost control of his car and it jumped the divider into the opposite lane, where it was struck head-on by an oncoming car. Yakar, 17, had received his driver's license less than a week ago.

One man was killed and two were injured, one critically, in a two-car collision near the Megiddo interchange.

A 42-year-old Givatayim man was killed in the afternoon when his motorcycle was struck by a pickup truck near the town's entrance.

Four persons were injured, three critically, when their car ran off the Tel Aviv-Ashdod highway and overturned.

Beit She'an's second accident in as many days left five people injured yesterday afternoon, when their van was hit by a truck near a roadblock.

The small Jordan Valley community of Petzael suffered a double tragedy yesterday. First, 18-year-old Ayala Hammel was killed shortly after midnight Monday when her car overturned near Moshav Masua. Later in the day, a 20-year-old resident was killed on the way to her funeral when his car was hit by a truck.

Two trucks collided Monday on the old Tel Aviv-Haifa highway, critically wounding driver Ziad Nokedat. He died of his injuries while on the way to the hospital.

Noted poet Miri Ben-Simhon, the author of three books, was killed Monday night when she was hit and dragged by a car while waiting for a bus outside Moshav Petahya near Ramle.

Later Monday evening, a car traveling on the Neshet-Nachshon road struck and killed a pedestrian.

A 50-year-old Romanian worker was killed Monday night when he was struck by a minibus while attempting to cross a street near Rehovot. A passenger bumed to death Monday night when his car veered into the opposite lane and was struck by another car and a truck near Mehola in the Jordan Valley.

President Ezer Weizman responded to the grim 24-hour toll by criticizing both traffic law enforcement and the behavior of the typical Israeli driver.

"I've got a feeling that drivers sit behind the wheel of a powerful car, some more and some less, and relate to the car as if were a weapon of destruction. They've just got to pass, got to get in front, got to show what they can do with the car. I appeal to the youth and to new drivers to drive carefully," Weizman remarked during a swearing-in ceremony for judges at Beit Hanassi.

In another response to the road deaths, Meretz faction leader MK Ran Cohen appealed to Health Minister Tzahi Hanegbi and Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy to help pass legislation which he and Hanegbi had cosponsored at the end of the 13th Knesset to help fight road accidents.

He said he hopes the Likud and other right-wing parties which supported the bill while they were in the opposition would support it now as well. *Bill Hutman adds:*

Improved driver education, and not more policemen on the roads, is the key to dealing with traffic accidents. Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday.

"I have spent much of my time over the past several years working in education, and see it as the most important area where improvement

(Continued on Page 2)

## Yeltsin continues army purge in preparation for election

MOSCOW (Reuter) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin, who like any other Kremlin leader keeps a close eye on the people with the guns, yesterday sacked seven army generals who had close ties to former defense minister Pavel Grachev.

The sackings, the latest stage in a purge of top brass and security bosses, came eight days before the July 3 runoff election pitting him against Communist Gennady Zyuganov.

New security supremo Alexander Lebed had named four of the dismissed generals last week, accusing them of planning to pressure Yeltsin to try to stop him from sacking Grachev.

"Yeltsin, under pressure from Lebed, is getting rid of those generals Grachev had installed," said Alexei Zuischenko, commentator for the newspaper *Svobodnyy*. "Those generals have little behind them apart from wives, children, and property," Zuischenko said, dismissing the chance that top military leaders could object to the sackings.

Lebed said last week that five generals, Grachev's press secretary, and the Georgian defense minister had

tried to convince Grachev to put the army on alert to put pressure on Yeltsin.

Lebed initially called the plotters "GKChP 3" in a reference to a hard-line coup attempt in 1991, but he and other top officials later tried to play down the affair. Some of the generals involved denied Lebed's charges.

Yeltsin, showing the seriousness with which he views the incident, has now dismissed four out of the five generals implicated by Lebed, including first deputy head of the General Staff Viktor Barynkyn, deputy commander of Land Forces Vladimir Shulikov, and head of the defense minister's personal staff Valery Lapshov.

The personnel changes followed meetings between Yeltsin and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, Interior Minister Anatoly Kulkov, and Lebed, the second meeting with his security supremo in as many days.

Press secretary Sergei Medvedev told Russian news agencies Yeltsin had discussed personnel changes with Chernomyrdin. He gave no details.

## World's last Yiddish daily to disappear

PARIS (Reuter) - The world's last daily Yiddish newspaper, *Unzer Wort* (Our Word), will fold at the end of this month, a victim of rising costs which killed several bigger French dailies in past years, its staff said yesterday.

*Unzer Wort* had already dwindled down to just three or four issues a week in recent years.

It was staffed by half a dozen full-time personnel, most in their late 70s, aided by volunteers who sought to preserve the former language of east European Jewry.

The newspaper, whose now-aged French readers were former immigrants who came to France from east European countries during the World War II era, got a new lease on life with the fall of communism seven years ago.

Subscription demands arrived from east European countries, where small Jewish communities

had survived both Nazi extermination and antisemitic Communist pressures, and daily circulation had crept up to 4,000. But new costs made closing the paper inevitable, staff said.

Sales were several times higher in the 1950s, when three Yiddish dailies appeared in Paris. A Yiddish-language weekly still

survives in the U.S. and there are periodicals elsewhere, including Argentine specialists say.

*Unzer Wort's* editorial line was strongly favorable to Israel's Labor Party, which helped create it after World War II to spread the Zionist message among Paris Jews before the creation of the State of Israel.

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# Netanyahu-Christopher meeting disappoints PA

PALESTINIAN Authority officials were not encouraged by yesterday's meeting between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and US Secretary of State Warren Christopher. But PA Chairman Yasser Arafat will meet with Christopher today in Cairo, before offering his own assessment on Israel's attitude toward peace talks.

The PA believes a meeting between Arafat and Netanyahu is essential before any serious talks can begin on the future of the peace process. Israeli security sources also expect that such a meeting will be necessary before any Israeli redeployment in Hebron. "We are looking for high-level talks, and that means Arafat and Netanyahu," said Arafat aide Nabil Abu Rudeineh. "When it happens, I am sure the first meeting between Netanyahu and Arafat will be difficult, but I am sure it will be less difficult than the first meeting between Arafat and Yitzhak Rabin," said Dr. Ahmed Tibi, a close adviser to Arafat. Meanwhile, Arafat and Christopher will likely be joined in their meeting by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The Palestinians put great store in the declarations of the Arab summit hosted by Mubarak in Cairo last week. "The summit confirmed the Palestinian position, and we are demanding that the Israelis advance the peace

process," Abu Rudeineh said. He said the PA had heard Israel is preparing a list of alleged Palestinian violations of the Oslo agreements and would demand their rectification before proceeding further in peace talks. The PA has drawn up its own list of Israeli violations to present in response. "If they have 49 objections, then we have 490, but let's sit down and negotiate," Abu Rudeineh said. Government coordinator Maj. Gen. Oren Shahor met with PA Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tarifi last night and transferred a list of some 20 violations drawn up by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai. These included issuing Palestinian passports to Jerusalem residents, starting work on a terminal at Rafah airport, and misusing Israeli-authorized VIP travel passes. Israel's failure to redeploy in Hebron, to release all women prisoners, or open the safe passage between Gaza and the West Bank would head the PA's list of violations, Abu Rudeineh said. The security ramifications of a Hebron redeployment are being discussed by the government, two women prisoners were kept in jail because President Ezer Weizman refused to amnesty them, and the safe passage accord is almost ready, Israel is most concerned about

the PA's willingness to act against terrorism, its failure to extradite terrorists, and its ambiguous amendment of the Palestinian Covenant. The PA's response is that it is doing all it can on terrorism, it is under no obligation to extradite wanted offenders it has already jailed, and that the covenant was amended according to the letters exchanged between Arafat and Rabin in September 1993.

The first real challenge of the next round of peace talks will come when Israel and the PA sit down to discuss further IDF redeployment in area C, which is 70 percent of the West Bank and falls under full Israeli security control. The redeployment from an undefined section of area C is supposed to take place in three stages six months apart, starting in September.

MK Ariel Sharon's supporters plan to demonstrate on his behalf in front of the Prime Minister's Office on Friday, United Torah Judaism, meanwhile, is threatening to leave the coalition if the Housing Ministry loses departments to help create a national infrastructure ministry for Sharon.

No way out of the impasse was apparent yesterday, despite assertions by those around Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu that "Arak will soon be inside." However, it was difficult to pinpoint where progress had been made after Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman's belligerent mediation. Ne'eman was assigned by Netanyahu to stitch up the new portfolio for Sharon. Netanyahu and Sharon met after midnight on Monday, and Sharon reported that "we had a very good general conversation, but did not dwell on the portfolio." "If there is a real - not a make-believe - ministry that will enable me to make a real contribution, then I will join the government," he reiterated, "and if not, I will work hard in the Knesset." This hard parliamentary work is apparently what is worrying

and quit the coalition, if an end is not put to the talk about removing the Public Works Department and the Rural Development Division from the ministry. Its stand has mystified the Likud, which notes that the UTJ would be left with a considerable empire and with all it needs to redress the housing grievances of the haredi community. Transportation and Energy Minister Yitzhak Levy of the National Religious Party suggested that "rather than tear off bits of the ministry, it might be better for the taxpayer if the Likud just takes the entire portfolio. To do otherwise would be to create the greatest havoc imaginable. It would serve no purpose if each official will have to answer to two ministers or if rail transport will be handled by one minister and the overpasses, which cross over the tracks, by another." Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan of Tsomet wondered whether "all this is not just some media hype with no real substance to it. Otherwise, I fail to understand why no one has bothered to talk to me about what is to be taken away from the Agriculture Ministry."

JON IMMANUEL

## Egypt: Netanyahu confirms Arab fears

CAIRO (Reuters) - Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Moussa said yesterday that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu had confirmed Arab fears for the future of Middle East peace by declining to commit Israel to swapping land for peace.

"Comments on the resumption of peace talks without preconditions indicate Israel's attempt to throw overboard the principles agreed in Madrid and circumvent the principle of land for peace, and this is the governing and basic principle," Moussa told reporters. "It represents a negative direction." Netanyahu, speaking in Jerusalem after meeting US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, declined to say if his government would stick to the principle of handing over captured Arab land in return for peace.

"I think we should have no prior conditions," he said. "It confirms our worries over the future of the peace process," said Moussa, whose country hosted a summit of Arab leaders at the weekend.

Moussa said President Hosni Mubarak are to discuss Netanyahu's comments in more detail with Christopher when the two men meet in Cairo today.

# Sharon backers to demonstrate outside PM's Office

SARAH HONG

Netanyahu's people. An inkling of what may be in store was provided when Sharon's supporters gathered in Neot Afeka and condemned what they charged is Netanyahu's aim of keeping Sharon out of his government.

They plan to demonstrate again in front of the Prime Minister's Office at 10 a.m. on Friday. Sources close to Netanyahu report that his conversation with Sharon - the first after it became apparent that Sharon was left without a portfolio - was "productive and cordial."

They say it broke the ice between the two, and they repeated their confidence that Sharon will soon be in the government, providing his demands are not excessive.

Last night, however, it was difficult to see how even the most modest portfolio could be put together, as no minister is willing to surrender any of his power to make the formation of the new ministry possible.

UTJ outdid all the others when Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush warned that his party might simply return the portfolio

years ago, France renewed armament purchases from Israel. The French government, facing a harsh crisis in the country's military industry, desires to add Israel to its customer list. The French have proposed to Defense Ministry Director-General David Ivry that Israel buy French-made Jaguar and Tiger helicopters. Ivry told them that Israel is content with the performances of its US-made Apaches.

During his visit to the Russian pavilion, Shahak met with Mikhail Kalashnikov, inventor of the legendary assault rifle, who complimented Israel on the invention of the Uzi. However, he said that the Galil rifle was an exact copy of the one that bears his name.

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## Shahak visits Paris arms show

ELDAD BECK

CHIEF of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak paid a short, unofficial visit to France yesterday.

While visiting neighboring Belgium, Shahak was invited to come to Paris for a few hours by the French Ministry of Defense. While there, he visited the international armament show Eurosatory '96, and met with French Chief of Staff Philippe Douen. In a gesture of goodwill, the French army sent an airplane to Belgium to bring Shahak to Paris.

Shahak started his stay at the Israeli pavilion at Eurosatory. This is the first year Israel is participating in the show, considered to be the world's biggest exhibition of military industries.

Representatives of the 12 companies exhibiting at the pavilion gave Shahak explanations of their latest developments.

Later, Shahak visited the Russian pavilion and was hosted at the stands of major French arms producers. The French companies have expressed the hope that Israel will once again start purchasing military systems made in France. French companies ceased selling arms to Israel or buying military equipment from it in 1968, when president Charles de Gaulle decreed a military embargo on Israel. When both countries signed, defence and military cooperation agreements two

years ago, France renewed armament purchases from Israel.

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Secretary of State Warren Christopher meets with Labor Party leaders Shimon Peres and Ehud Barak last night in Jerusalem. (Yitzhak Elsharg)

## Labor: Netanyahu will have to meet Arafat, leave Hebron if he's serious

MICHAL YUDELMAN

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will have to meet Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat and redeploy the IDF in Hebron if he is serious about continuing the peace process, Labor Party leaders said yesterday.

MK Ehud Barak, responding to Netanyahu's statements after meeting Secretary of State Warren Christopher, blasted his desire to go back to the Madrid Conference, calling it "an illusion. The Madrid Conference is no longer relevant."

Barak dismissed Netanyahu's statement concerning advancing negotiations with no preconditions, noting that such a stand might be plausible before negotiations, "but today Netanyahu should remember we are in the midst of negotiations, and there is no place for such utterances."

Barak said the Hebron issue is complicated, and when Netanyahu studies all the material

involved, "he will carry out everything we planned to. In a week, we shall see him changing his militant tone and saying very different things. Otherwise, the peace negotiations will be quagmired."

MK Haim Ramon said a meeting between Netanyahu and Arafat is inevitable, and the sooner it takes place the better. "The Israeli government must honor international agreements, as the prime minister has stated. This obliges him to talk to the head of the PA, whether he likes him or not," Ramon said.

"If this government means what it says about continuing the peace process and the talks with the Palestinians, such a meeting is inevitable and must be held as soon as possible. The longer Netanyahu delays, the greater the danger for the peace process."

Commenting on Netanyahu's promise, at the

end of the news conference with Christopher, to install air-conditioning in the Prime Minister's Office by Christopher's next visit, Ramon said: "Is that the great government reform Netanyahu had promised?"

Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said, "It seems to me that Netanyahu is still in his election campaign. I hear words, words, words, but they're meaningless and it's impossible to understand anything from them about his intentions. What we saw today was evasions, not answers."

"It is said all the time that Netanyahu is holding his cards close to his chest. I'm beginning to wonder whether he has any cards at all." Scoffing at the idea of reviving the Madrid Conference, Sarid said, "Netanyahu cannot take us back to the Madrid period. Who will go there with him? At the most he can take Sara [his wife] to Madrid. But I don't know a single Arab leader who would join him. So what does it matter what he thinks about it?"

## Suspected collaborator appeals for Israeli residency

EVYLYN GORDON

A RESIDENT of Gaza who is suspected by the Palestinian Authority of collaborating with Israel petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday against Israel's refusal to grant him residency rights here.

Awad Shalalafa, 42, is a resident of Beit Hanoun in Gaza, who has been married for seven years to a Beduin woman with Israeli citizenship. Before the PA was even set up, two of his cousins were murdered in Rafiah due to suspicions they had collaborated with Israel. Shalalafa is also friendly with another known collaborator named Abed Abu Housa. Because of these two factors, the petition said, he has been suspected by the PA of being a collaborator himself, and has been arrested twice - once for 14 days, and a second time for five and a half months.

Both times, he said, he was tortured, and he still bears the scars from his second stay in a PA jail.

After being released the second time, in July 1995, Shalalafa and his wife fled to Israel, despite Shalalafa's lack of a permit. Six months later, the petition said, the PA destroyed his house.

Shalalafa asked the Interior Ministry to grant him citizenship, or at least permanent residency, based both on the fact that his wife is an Israeli citizen and on the fact that his life would be in

danger under the PA.

He also claimed that he had done Israel a service by warning Abu Housa that the PA was looking for him, and that he should therefore stay out of Gaza. Shalalafa said he did this despite having been offered a substantial reward by the PA if he would help them catch Abu Housa. His petition included an affidavit from Abn Housa in support of his claim.

However, the ministry refused his request, citing "security reasons."

In his petition, Shalalafa said the only security offense of which he was ever convicted was illegal possession of a weapon, for which he served 10 months in 1990. He carried this illegal weapon, he said, only because the murder of his two cousins had made him afraid for his own life.

He has also committed two crimes which were not security-related: He was convicted of car theft in 1983 and of possessing a tool for illegal entry in 1993.

The petition argued that the ministry's decision is unreasonable given the mortal danger Shalalafa would be in if forced to return to the PA areas. He also charged that the decision will discourage other Arabs from assisting Israel, if this is the treatment he gets after having risked himself to warn a known collaborator.

## PA Council member held briefly for incitement

JON IMMANUEL

ISRAELI police arrested a member of the Palestinian Council at the Allenby Bridge yesterday and released him five hours later after questioning him about inciting youths at a rally last Saturday.

Abbas Zaki, a top Fatah official who returned recently from Jordan, addressed a crowd in Samoua, south of Hebron, protesting the expropriation of land for a bypass road.

Shortly afterward, youths stoned bulldozers and set fire to a steamroller.

Zaki was arrested in an area under Israeli control on his way to Jordan. He was later allowed to continue his journey.

Government coordinator Maj. Gen. Oren Shahor raised the issue in a meeting with Palestinian Authority Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tarifi last night to discuss violations of the peace accords. Tarifi protested the arrest of a PA Council member, but Shahor told him that it is the responsibility of council members and members of the PA to moderate passions, not stir them up.

If there are problems concerning Israeli activities, they should be brought up through official channels, Shahor said.

## Pol: PA should provide info on MIAs

Some 75 percent of the public think the release of additional Palestinian prisoners by Israel should be conditioned on the receipt of information from Yasser Arafat about Israeli MIAs, even if this delays the peace process, according to a new survey by Gallup Israel, which was commissioned by Independent Media Review and Analysis. The survey, which has a 4.3% margin of error, also found that 84% of Israelis believe Israel should insist on getting information about the MIAs during the opening stages of negotiations with Syria. Evelyn Gordon

## Women in Green: Learn from Indians' experience

Women for Israel's Tomorrow (Women in Green) held a small demonstration opposite the American consulate yesterday in Indian head-dresses. The theme of the demonstration, directed at US Secretary of State Warren Christopher, was that "land for peace" proved a dismal failure for the Indian tribes who signed such deals with the US, and that the US should not be pressuring Israel into a similarly poor deal with the Arabs. Evelyn Gordon

In deep sorrow, we announce the death after a long illness of **HINDA MARKOWITZ** **ה'תשנ"ו**  
The funeral will take place tomorrow, Thursday, June 27 (10 Tamuz), at the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery, near Shimon Junction, at 9:30 a.m.  
The coffin is arriving on El Al flight 014, at 7:55 a.m.  
Please call 08-8503781, 02-231254, for information.  
Husband: Mayer Markowitz  
Sons: David Ben Meir, Avi Markowitz

## Syria: Arabs, not Israel, decide Middle East fate

DAMASCUS (Reuters) Syria said yesterday that the Arabs, not Israel, are the ones who decide the fate of the Middle East.

The ruling Ba'ath party newspaper *al-Ba'ath* said the warning from last weekend's Arab summit in Cairo to reconsider Arab ties with Israel, if it does not observe the principle of land for peace, shows Arabs are ready to "face all challenges."

"The Cairo summit has given a clear and honest statement from the Arabs. And whether Israel rejects or accepts, this statement is the one that will decide the future of the region which will be nothing but an Arab future," *al-Ba'ath* said.

It said Netanyahu's tactics did not scare Arabs. "Israel should perceive that its obstinacy and hardness could not terrorize Arabs or force them to retract their principles," it said.

The Syrian newspaper also accused Israel and Turkey of "plotting" against Arabs and condemned their "expansionist ambitions" on the Arab lands.

Ties between Syria and Turkey, at loggerheads over water rights from the Euphrates river and Turkey's accusation that Syria plays host to Kurdish rebels, deteriorated further this year when Ankara signed a military training pact with Israel.

"Arabs are facing pressures, ambitions and threats not only from Israel but also from Turkey, which wants to control the water resources of the region and restore its bygone influence in the Middle East," *al-Ba'ath* said.

## ROADS

(Continued from Page 1)

can be made," said Kahalani, who held the education portfolio as deputy mayor of Tel Aviv before becoming a minister. "The problem is the drivers' behavior."

The recent State Comptroller's Report pointed out that there has been an increase in manpower in traffic police units over the past several years, while the number of accidents continues to rise.

Police have long maintained that enforcement is only one aspect of the war against traffic accidents, and that improved driver education, as well as driver awareness of the dangers of reckless driving, are also essential.

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. Prof. Gerald Ben-David will speak on "Stopping the Carriage on the Roads."

## Court: Treatment of administrative detainees must be rethought

EVYLYN GORDON

THE Supreme Court has sharply criticized the conditions in which administrative detainees are held, and told the state it must rethink the way it deals with them.

The court was hearing an appeal yesterday by Sami Ovadia, the last remaining Jewish detainee. Ovadia was detained for three months a month ago, due largely to various extremist statements he had made, such as a statement that former interior minister Haim Ramon should suffer the same fate as Yitzhak Rabin.

Justices Gavriel Baeb, Mishael Cheshin and Yitzhak Zamir rejected Ovadia's appeal against his detention, saying classified information indicated that he was a potential danger.

However, Cheshin in particular slammed the conditions in which Ovadia is being held, according to

attorney Naftali Wertzberger.

Cheshin was angered that Ovadia is only being allowed to see his family twice a week for half an hour. Since detainees have never been convicted or even accused of a crime, it is inconceivable that they should be treated like ordinary prisoners, he said.

Cheshin said that if it is necessary to ensure proper treatment, a special wing should be set up for detainees where they will enjoy, as far as possible, the privileges of civilian life: television, newspapers, and unlimited visiting time with their families.

Government attorney Michael Blass promised that in light of the court's comments, the state would look into the matter of how detainees are treated, and take steps to improve Ovadia's conditions.

Barak: include

Protest

02-231254

הערה: מן האירוע



Supreme Court President Aharon Barak (left), President Ezer Weizman and Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman make a toast yesterday at a swearing-in ceremony for new judges. (Efraim Kilshuk)

## Barak: Judiciary must be made independent of executive

THE judiciary should be made more independent of the executive, Supreme Court President Aharon Barak said yesterday. Barak, who was speaking at a judges' swearing-in ceremony, said the principle of separating the branches of government means the judiciary must be made independent branch and cannot be dependent on the executive. At

present, the judiciary's budget is set by the executive, and directed via the Justice Ministry. However, he said there is no argument about the fact that the judiciary must be dependent - via the state budget - on the Knesset. The new judges sworn in yesterday include Nava Kapulinsky, Alisa Miller, Boaz Okon and

Meir Shenav, named as magistrate's court judges in the Tel Aviv and central area. Sara Meiri was sworn in as a Tel Aviv Labor Court judge; Miriam Rabas a northern district magistrate; Ron Sokol as a Haifa Magistrate's Court judge; and Shira Ben-Shlomo as a traffic court judge in the Tel Aviv and central areas. (Ilim)

## Police may probe Ne'eman for witness tampering

POLICE are considering opening an investigation into allegations that Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman tried to interfere with a witness in the trial of MK Aryeh Deri, police sources said yesterday. Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair on Thursday asked Cmdr. Yossi Levy, head of Police Investigations, to determine whether an investigation is warranted into the allegations, that arose earlier this month during the Deri trial. Levy said yesterday that he is still looking into the matter, but declined to comment further. The sources said the final decision on whether to open an investigation will be made by Levy and Ben-Yair, as is normally the case in sensitive cases. A police memorandum presented in the Deri trial earlier this

**BILL HUTMAN**  
month stated that British witness Martin Brown said Ne'eman had told him not to cooperate with police. Ne'eman strongly denied this, while Brown has refused to confirm the statement, which he allegedly made several years ago. Meanwhile, former Tsomet director-general Doron Shmueli was questioned by police yesterday about allegations he misused classified IDF documents. Environment Minister Rafael Eitan is under investigation by police on similar allegations. Police sources said while the alleged infractions were similar, the cases are being handled separately. Shmueli, Eitan, and other senior Tsomet members are suspected of using classified army documents

revealing unfavorable personal data about party activists to blackmail them out of the party. Police sources said that in Eitan's case, a recommendation he be charged is likely to be turned over to the Attorney-General's Office soon. *Evelyn Gordon adds:* The Movement for Quality Government in Israel asked Ben-Yair to ask the Knesset to lift the immunity of MK Raphael Pinhasi (Shas). The last Knesset refused to do so, but a new Knesset could theoretically act differently. The movement also asked Ben-Yair to bar Pinhasi from chairing the Knesset House Committee, since it deals with immunity requests. Shas has been granted chairmanship of this committee, but the party has not yet awarded the post to a specific MK.

## Three remanded for making, selling Ecstasy

THREE persons suspected of manufacturing and selling thousands of Ecstasy pills were remanded yesterday for eight days by Ramle Magistrate's Court. The arrests followed a six-month undercover investigation resulting in the discovery of a secret laboratory in Kfar Aharon, near Ness Ziona, equipped to manufacture thousands of Ecstasy pills daily. Hanan Rabin, 43, of Yavne, Daniel Blum, 41, and his former wife, Aliza, 40, of Rishon LeZion were arrested on Sunday. All are suspected of manufacturing the

**RAINE MARCUS**  
drug over the past year. Rabin is also suspected of importing chemicals used in making the drug. Police requested the maximum 15-day remand, arguing that other arrests are imminent and that detectives investigating the case still have to examine chemicals, text books, and machinery seized from the lab. A number of Ecstasy pills were found at the home of Aliza Blum, who has two children. She is suspected of transferring drugs from one place to

another. Rabin was arrested in the laboratory as he was making the drug, but police believe he also had a hand in dealing huge quantities of Ecstasy. Daniel Blum denied all connection with the affair and his lawyer said police have no evidence connecting him with illicit drug manufacture or trafficking. Aliza Blum's lawyer argued unsuccessfully that since his client has a clean record and has worked for Israel Aircraft Industries for the past 18 years, there was no reason for her to be held in custody.

## Investment official indicted for embezzling NIS 13m.

YOSEF Topol, former comptroller of the Amot Investment Corporation, was indicted yesterday by Tel Aviv District Court on charges of theft, fraud, forgery and breach of trust. Topol, 56, is accused of embezzling nearly NIS 13 million from the company over a nine-year period. He has already admitted the theft, but detectives believe Topol embezzled more than NIS 30 million. They have still not traced all the money, but believe some was invested in property in London. Topol said he had spent it. According to the indictment, Topol would write checks payable

**RAINE MARCUS**  
to himself and family members, with copies and invoices made out to Mifalei Tahanot, a company under contract with Amot, which is a Bank Hapoalim subsidiary. He would forge the second signature required on the checks. The copies were then forwarded to the company's accounts department. Thirty-seven checks were issued in this way and deposited in family members' bank accounts before being transferred to unknown destinations. Topol's son, Eran, and daughter-in-law, Yasmin, were charged with fraud-

ulently receiving money. They are accused of opening various savings accounts and transferring money from one account to another. Prosecutor Nava Schiller has asked for Topol's remand until the end of proceedings and a hearing on the request has been set for this morning. Meanwhile, Amot is suing Topol for NIS 30 million in civil proceedings. Police have described the scam as "very sophisticated." Although Topol offered to give evidence against others who he claims stole hundreds of millions, detectives believe he acted alone.

## Defendant not obligated to attend trial



Shimon Shoshani, outgoing director-general of the Education Ministry, has been named director-general of the Jewish Agency. Shoshani, 59, will assume his new post next month and be responsible for continuing the process of reform begun by Chairman Abraham Burg. (Efraim Kilshuk)

DEFENDANTS do not have to be present at their trials if there is no real necessity for their presence, according to a High Court of Justice ruling. The ruling was issued in response to a petition by three businessmen, Yitzhak Shani, Yosef Dtamant, and Ephraim Gilad, who are currently on trial in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court. The three argued that their obligation to appear at the sessions, which are being held three days a week, is damaging their businesses. The petitioners had originally asked the lower court to permit them not to attend, but the court rejected the request, saying their presence is an obligation, as well

as a right. They then petitioned the High Court. Justices Aharon Barak, Mishael Cheshin, and Dalia Dorner ruled that a defendant must be present only if he is needed on a particular day - for instance, if a witness has to identify him, or if the court wants to see his reaction to a particular piece of testimony. They directed the lower court to re-evaluate the petitioners' request in light of this ruling. Dorner noted that the law which forbids a trial to be held without the defendant present is meant to protect his right to a fair trial. However, she said, this does not mean a defendant cannot waive his right to be present.

"Obligating the defendant to be present at his trial infringes on his right to freedom, which is enshrined in the Basic Law: Human Dignity and Freedom," she wrote. Such a requirement might also infringe on his right to freedom of occupation, which is also enshrined in a basic law, she added. Barak also rejected the suggestion that perhaps a defendant should be forced to attend his trial as a way of keeping him off the streets. "The criminal process is meant to uncover the truth," he wrote. "It is not intended to impose hardship on the defendant." (Ilim)

## Eitan begins learning about garbage

THE Hirya landfill near Tel Aviv is a hazard to aircraft using Ben-Gurion Airport. Airport Authority representatives told Environment Minister Rafael Eitan yesterday. Eitan started his first field visit to Hirya to study the problems of solid waste disposal. He refused to discuss the possible transfer of some of the matters now under his jurisdiction to the planned national infrastructure ministry to be led by MK Ariel Sharon. He was also reticent about the police inquiry into him and other Tsomet members, saying only, "There are some people trying to dig up anything against me." He did not make any clear statement on his solid waste policy either. Hirya, near Lod, should

**LIAT COLLINS**  
have closed at the end of 1995, and the garbage from the central region should have been transported to the Duda'im landfill near Beersheba, but the Duda'im expansion has been opposed by local residents. Yesterday afternoon, Eitan visited Duda'im and had a meeting at the Beersheba Municipality to hear its side of the issue. Hanan Liss, deputy Airport Authority director, said the height of the artificial hill created by the Hirya garbage dump is close to being the maximum possible without endangering planes approaching and leaving the airport, and the birds who flock above the dump present another

hazard, as they can be sucked into the engines. Despite the closure decision, the site still takes in 6,000 cubic meters of waste a day. Yosef Givol, chairman of the Dan Region Towns Association, said the site can only remain open for another two years at the most, and the best solution is to turn it into a transit site for garbage being transported to Duda'im. He said every step should be taken to reduce the amount of waste by encouraging recycling and compost projects. Eitan said he needs more time to study the issue before making a decision on when to close the dump and to form an opinion on expanding Duda'im.

## New Telecard dedicated to preventing domestic violence

BEZEQ has issued a new Telecard dedicated to the prevention of violence in the family. All proceeds from sales of the telephone card will be devoted to WIZO's efforts to prevent family violence, assist the victims and educate both victims and violators. Some 100,000 Telecards with the slogan, "Help us say no to violence in the family," have been produced. They picture four TV stars popular among children: Michal Yanai, Itai Segev, Oded

**JUDY SIEGEL**  
Menashe and Pnina Dvorin. They will be sold in Supersol and Hypercol stores at the same price as in postal branches, but the chain stores will donate all profits to WIZO. The phone card, usable in public telephones, is expected to become popular among Telecard collectors. Bezeq director-general Yitzhak Kaul said he is proud to participate in such an effort. World WIZO president Michal Modai

said there are 200,000 battered women and 660,000 children who suffer from active or passive violence in the home. Last year, WIZO alone received some 5,000 calls from battered women, and its hostels house 1,200 women and 2,500

children afraid to live at home. Some 65 percent of the families were treated in special center and escaped from the cycle of violence. Supersol president David Alphandary said it is his company's policy to cooperate with organizations that promote social goals.

## Aloni: Don't return to cultural arrogance

SAYING that she has left culture and the arts in better shape than she found it four years ago, former Arts, Science and Communications minister Shulamit Aloni (Meretz) had a pat on the back and a word of warning yesterday for Education and Culture Minister Zevulun Hammer (NRP). "I'm optimistic. I think that Hammer will try to prove he is everybody's minister and so they won't take axes [to cultural bodies], but they may strangle some," she said. "Let arts and culture flourish for everybody. They rank with science and technology as the best and most creative of our endeavors." Hammer, she warned, should neither attempt to reimpose an

**HELEN KAYE**  
intellectual ghetto nor return to an attitude of cultural arrogance which dismisses everything outside Torah and Talmud as chaff. "It worries me that I have his books in my library, as it were, but that he has one of mine, those which belongs to creative Israel and are unknown to his community. There are things that go beyond [the cries of] 'Messiah, Messiah,'" Aloni said. Arts and Culture Authority head Yossi Frost said the national arts budget had increased by some 70 percent in real terms from NIS 90 million in 1992 to NIS 265 million for fiscal '96. "This sum is still far short of the

NIS 400 million we would be getting today had the government approved the NIS 300 million Aloni requested in 1993," Frost said. The funding proposal was submitted in light of recommendations from the nine ministerial committees Aloni appointed to examine the proper funding and management of all the arts. During her tenure Aloni established the first professional Arab theater in Israel, with a NIS 2 million budget, and increased the overall Arab culture budget from NIS 2.9 million to NIS 12.6 million; increased funding to the film industry from NIS 3.9 million to NIS 16.2 million; and deepened Israel's cultural links with foreign countries.

## Greens protest public fare raise

**LIAT COLLINS**  
LIFE and Environment, the umbrella group of all environmental associations in the country, is protesting the reported plans of the Finance Ministry to raise the fares on public transportation by cutting subsidies, while reducing the purchase tax on private vehicles. Fares would be raised by 10 percent, while the tax would be slashed from 95 percent to 50 percent. The group's chairman, Yosef Tamir, has asked the government to reconsider the decision, which he said would be both environmentally detrimental and cause greater financial hardship to the most needy sectors of the population. He said the use of public transportation should be encouraged as a way of improving road safety.

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# Milosevic demands Karadzic's ouster

SERBIAN leader Slobodan Milosevic ordered the Bosnian Serbs to oust their "president" Radovan Karadzic immediately or face reprisals from Yugoslavia.

The ultimatum from Belgrade yesterday was denounced as a betrayal by hardliners in the Bosnian Serb parliament, as it met in Pale to review world pressure for Karadzic's resignation.

There were signs the Serbian president's strongarm tactics could backfire after hints earlier that Karadzic, who has been indicted by the UN as a war criminal, was ready to step down.

"If they keep on insisting that the Bosnian Serb republic offer more concessions like Milosevic did [during the peace negotiations] in Dayton, that would be counter-productive," a Bosnian Serb government official said. "We are not ready for concessions."

The Yugoslav news agency Tanjug said senior Bosnian Serb envoys were told to get rid of Karadzic at a meeting in Belgrade with Milosevic and the presidents of rump Yugoslavia - comprising only Serbia and Montenegro - and Montenegro on Monday.

DAN DE LUCE  
PALE, Bosnia

The West has threatened Milosevic and the Bosnian Serbs with renewed sanctions if Karadzic stays in power to obstruct the peace process and inter-ethnic elections in Bosnia on September 14.

Tanjug quoted an official statement in Belgrade as saying: "An acting president of the Bosnian Serb republic with full powers must be appointed immediately to prevent its citizens' interests being further jeopardized in the implementation of the peace agreement."

It warned of unspecified reprisals if the Bosnian Serb parliament did not comply, but the Bosnian Serb republic depends heavily on rump Yugoslavia for its economic survival.

The ultimatum was issued in the name of Federal President Zoran Ljilic in keeping with Milosevic's practice of maintaining a low public profile while wielding most power in Yugoslavia.

When news of it filtered through to the parliament session, journalists, including Bosnian

Serb reporters, were immediately cleared from the vicinity while deputies clustered in agitated groups.

The parliament has defied Milosevic before, most famously in 1993-94 when it refused to endorse international peace plans on which the Serbian president had staked his credibility.

But Milosevic has shown that he can make the Pale leaders obey him in a crisis. He forced them to free 400 hostage UN peacekeepers last year and also to let him negotiate the Dayton agreement on their behalf.

He has turned a deaf ear for months to Western pleas for Karadzic's dismissal and extradition to the UN court in The Hague.

Political sources in Belgrade said Milosevic probably decided to become more amenable when it became evident that communist Alexander Zjuganov, his favored candidate in Russia's presidential election, would probably be defeated.

Without a sure ally in Kremlin, Milosevic is much more vulnerable to the threat of a renewal of the 31/2 years of trade and oil sanctions which helped destroy the Yugoslav economy. (Reuters)



Republican presidential challenger Bob Dole (right) chats with Cardinal John O'Connor yesterday outside St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York, before meeting with him at O'Connor's residence. The cardinal, a fervent foe of abortion, said later that he was satisfied with Dole's stand on the abortion issue. (Reuters)

# Hawkish Yeltsin proposes closer union with Ukraine

MOSCOW, June 25 (Reuters) - With an election looming, Russian President Boris Yeltsin tried to steal some thunder from his Communist rival yesterday when he urged a close-knit union between Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine.

"The political foundation of CIS relations could be a union with Belarus, Kazakhstan and Ukraine - with the goodwill of the latter," Yeltsin wrote in an annual report on Russian national security sent to the two houses of parliament.

Belarus and Kazakhstan signed an accord aimed at closer union with Russia earlier this year.

The report, cited by Interfax news agency, underlined any such

union would "respect territorial integrity," but Ukraine opposes any kind of union with Russia and generally dismisses the CIS as an ineffectual body.

The Kremlin leader's underlying aim appears to be to steal thunder from his Communist opponent Gennady Zyuganov before the second round of Russia's presidential election on July 3.

Zyuganov, appealing to voters nostalgic for the Soviet past, has said he would like to see a reintegration of the Soviet Union and is ambivalent on Russia's relations with the West.

Yeltsin, who blasted NATO expansion over the weekend dur-

ing a memorial service near the Polish border marking Germany's invasion of Russia in June 1941, strove to highlight his hawkish credentials in the written address.

He wrote NATO expansion would "change the balance of power in Europe detrimentally to Russia, threatening Russia with isolation."

Yeltsin's popular new security supreme, Alexander Lebed, won a boost after Yeltsin named the Security Council as the organization which will "coordinate and control" the formulation of Russian security policy.

In a lightning purge of Russian security structures over the last week, Yeltsin appointed Lebed, a

tough-talking general who came third in the first round of the presidential elections, secretary of the Security Council and made him his national security advisor in a bid to win over Lebed's voters.

However, the Security Council has yet to win formal status and is attacked by the Communists as "unconstitutional."

On relations with the United States, Yeltsin pandered to wounded Russian pride, calling for equality between the two.

"From the long-term perspective, the US must be interested that Russian be a consolidated enough center of power to play a stabilizing role in Eurasia," Yeltsin wrote.

# US authorities believed Swiss accepted Nazi gold

LONDON (AP) - US authorities believed that Switzerland's secretive banks accepted millions of dollars of Nazi funds looted from Europe during World War II, according to a report this week in the Observer newspaper.

The newspaper quoted a recently uncovered US government memo written in 1946 which alleged Swiss banks had accepted \$123 million worth of gold from the Nazis at the height of the war, knowing it was stolen from Belgium.

After half a century of silence following World War II, the allegations come at a bad time for the Swiss Bankers' Association.

Jews have claimed Swiss financial institutions accepted Nazi deposits stolen from Jews and that private holdings belonging to Jewish victims of the Nazis may have been sequestered by the banks.

On May 2, the association agreed with Jewish groups to a six-member independent commission to review claims by Nazi Holocaust victims.

However, the numbers involved in alleged

missing personal savings of Nazi victims pales beside the banks' acceptance of \$123,000,000 of Belgium gold.

The Observer reported it had obtained the memo from the World Jewish Congress, which uncovered it last week.

The memorandum, headed "Office of Military Government for Germany (US)," and dated February 1, 1946, accused the Swiss banks of knowingly accepting stolen gold deposited to them by the Nazi regime.

The memo, which paraphrased a telegram sent from the US State Department to the US Embassy in London, was written by Donald Heath, director of the office.

"It was known to monetary statisticians everywhere," the memo stated, "that at the start of the war the Germans possessed monetary gold reserves of about \$70,000,000 in gold which had been spent by Germany at the latest by 1943 in her war effort."

"If the Swiss accepted the 100 tons of gold offered them by the Germans in 1943 which was worth \$123,000,000, how can it be con-

ceded to the Swiss that they acted in good faith?"

The memorandum pointed out further evidence that the Swiss knew the gold deposits came from the Nazi looting of Belgium. The article did not make clear whether the money came from the Belgium National Bank or a mix of commercial banks and private funds.

"Moreover," the memo stated, "how can the Swiss claim they acted in good faith when this gold was acquired at the time they knew that it had been refused for those very reasons by the Swedes?"

However, the memorandum recommended that pressure on the Swiss to come clean over the origins of the gold would be counter-productive. The Allied powers had then begun negotiations with the Swiss over Nazi treasure looted from European states.

"Name calling can serve no useful purpose," the memo recommended, stating that the Swiss would be sensitive over their status as a neutral nation.

# Havel: Czech cabinet pact stuck on minor points

PRAGUE (Reuters) - President Vaclav Havel said yesterday that minor points were keeping the three parties in the ruling Czech conservative coalition from sealing a deal to form a minority cabinet after inconclusive elections.

Speaking after meeting Prime Minister Vaclav Klaus and the leaders of the junior parties, Havel said a long-awaited agreement was within reach, but said two new sticking points had emerged beyond a protracted row over cabinet seats.

"The coalition negotiations about the government are intensively going forward, but I have to say they have not reached a final point yet," he told a news conference. "There were two minor things which are new problems which made it impossible to sign a

new coalition agreement," he said.

He declined to elaborate except to say the problems were not connected to the structure or personalities in the cabinet.

Klaus has been trying since the elections three weeks ago to rebuild his center-right coalition, which has pushed through sweeping economic reforms over the past four years.

None of the party leaders was available for comment after leaving the meeting with Havel at Prague Castle.

Talks immediately before the new parliament convened yesterday failed to produce agreement, bogged down in arguments over who gets what posts in the new cabinet.

# Prince Charles visits N. Ireland

BELFAST (AP) - Prince Charles, under tight security amid concerns about IRA violence, sought to ease the sharp divisions in Northern Ireland by bringing together Catholic and Protestant teenagers yesterday.

The prince began a three-day visit to the province by visiting a Belfast youth club set up to bridge the gap between the two religions.

The prince's charity, the Prince's Trust, partially funds the club, and other such centers in N. Ireland.

Charles was enthusiastically received as he left the club in the mostly Protestant area.

# NEWS IN BRIEF

## Egypt thwarts militant violence, arrests 12

CAIRO (Reuters) - The Egyptian government has unearthed a group of Moslem militants who planned to carry out acts of violence, official sources said yesterday.

An Interior Ministry spokesman said the ministry would release a statement on the case today. He declined to give any details in advance.

An Arab diplomatic source said over the weekend that the Egyptian authorities had arrested 12 men planning violence to coincide with the Arab summit which took place in Cairo on Saturday and Sunday.

## Iraq, Iran exchange remains of war dead

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iraq and Iran exchanged the remains of several hundred soldiers killed during their 1980-88 war, the official Iraqi News Agency said yesterday.

Iran handed over the remains of 200 Iraqis while Iraq delivered the bodies of 144 Iranians, INA said.

The exchange, which was based on a memorandum of understanding the two sides signed last September, took place in Shalamcha, just inside Iran on the Shatt al-Arab border river near the Iranian port of Khorramshahr and the Iraqi port of Basra. The area was the scene of some of the most fierce battles in the eight-year war.

## Soviet FM criticizes US over Boutros-Ghali

MOSCOW (AP) - Russia's Foreign Ministry chided the United States yesterday for publicly opposing Boutros Boutros-Ghali's re-election as UN chief, saying the matter should have been handled privately.

Spokesman Mikhail Demurin said at a briefing that the US State Department statement that Washington might use its veto to block Boutros-Ghali's re-election as secretary general "cannot but cause surprise."

The statement "is inconsistent with the UN practice of Security Council member states having confidential consultations among themselves about the appointment of a secretary general and never making their position public."

## Turkey alliance deal eludes Ciller, Islamists

ANKARA (Reuters) - Negotiations to end a nine-month power vacuum in Turkey barely advanced yesterday after conservative leader Tansu Ciller and the Islamists failed to conclude an alliance deal.

Senior Ciller aide Necmettin Cevbeni said after a third round of talks that no deal had yet been reached. Any agreement would give Islamists their largest chunk of power in the secular NATO-member's modern history.

"The work will continue between the two groups. We are working on some points," Cevbeni told a news conference after a 90-minute meeting between Ciller and Necmettin Erbakan, leader of the influential Islam-based Welfare Party.

Ciller, a former prime minister and leader of the conservative True Path Party (DYP), left parliament without talking to reporters.

Cevbeni did not say when the two parties would renew talks but he added negotiations were continuing on details of the proposed alliance.

## Nigeria talks with Commonwealth deadlocked

LONDON (Reuters) - Nigeria's hopes of being allowed back into the Commonwealth faded yesterday after a delegation from the Lagos government took an unexpectedly hard line in talks with the 56-nation body, diplomats said.

The delegation, meeting the Commonwealth for the first time since Nigeria was suspended last year for human rights abuses, said on Monday it wanted dialogue. Officials described the tone of the talks as unexpectedly friendly.

But yesterday, Nigerian Foreign Minister Tom Ikimi, who has proposed a four-step plan to end the crisis in relations, made it clear there was little room for compromise.

"The word is intransigence. The Nigerian delegation has not given anything away," said one diplomat after yesterday's first session of talks between Nigeria and the eight-nation Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG).

The Commonwealth suspended the populous oil-rich West African state last November after author Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other minority activists were executed for murder.

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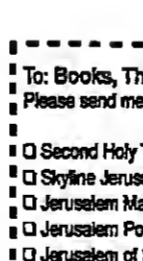
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# Syria, Iran laud summit results

News agencies

**T**HOUGH it didn't get all its own way, Syria emerged as the biggest winner at the weekend Arab summit by dictating its agenda: a united Arab front demanding Israel's pullback to 1967 lines.

The two-day summit delivered a message that all Arabs support Syria on a full and comprehensive peace, and that any backtracking would cost Israel its most precious peace dividend, normality with its neighbors.

"Syria is the main winner in this summit," said one Arab diplomat. "This summit primarily benefited Syria. President [Hafez] Assad managed to get a strong Arab backing in his conflict with the new government."

Syria's state-run press seemed to concur, lauding the summit, which ended Sunday, as a "tremendous success." Its ally Iran, which totally opposes the peace process, praised the Arabs for standing up to Israel.

In Baghdad, the state-run press slammed the summit, saying its decisions were anti-Iraqi. Iraq was not invited to the two-day meeting in Egypt.

The Damascus daily, *Tishrin*, said the summit had "put Israel in the spotlight and cut the road before all maneuvers that aim at misleading the Arabs."

It said there was now no room for Israel to indulge in "further detours and cheating," and that it should "take a final and decisive stand on the peace process." The newspaper said the summit was a "tremendous success."

In Teheran, the English-language *Teheran Times* said the Arabs "should be patted on the back for taking a reasonable stand against the arch-enemy of the Moslem community, the Zionist regime."

Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Morteza Sarmadi had said that "from Iran's point of view, the summit was positive because it seems the Arab countries have realized the sinister goals of the Zionist entity and abandoned their unwarranted optimism."

Radical Palestinian groups hailed the Arab leaders' commitment to link peace with Israel to its withdrawal from territory and the establishment of a Palestinian state.

But the groups, who oppose the PLO-Israeli peace, also urged Arab states immediately to halt normalization of ties with Israel and to admit the right of Palestinians to wage armed struggle against the Jewish state.

"We welcome the Arabs' commitment to a return of Arab lands from Israel," spokesman of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine Maher al-Tajer said.



Syrian President Hafez Assad (center) attends the Arab summit on Sunday.

"We wish the summit had also decided to ensure Palestinians' right to all forms of struggle including the armed one as long as Israel does not abide by international legitimacy resolutions," Tajer said.

"Achieving a comprehensive and just peace in the Middle East requires that Israel withdraw from all occupied Palestinian land, including Arab Jerusalem, and enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and set up an independent Palestinian state with Arab Jerusalem as its capital," the Cairo summit statement said.

Tajer said: "It is normal that they are committed to Palestinian rights, but we also urge them to halt all forms of normalization with Israel until it implements UN resolutions and returns the Palestinian rights."

He added that Arab summits should not be held to answer the Israeli government program or to react to its policies.

"Arabs need to meet periodically to discuss their political concerns," Tajer said.

A spokesman of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine also welcomed the Arab leaders' commitment to ensuring the Palestinian right of self-determination and setting up an independent state.

"The Arab decisions are steps in the right direction, to return balance to the Arab position which was shaken" by the PLO-Israeli peace deals, Ali Badran said.

"We urge the Arab countries to stop rushing to normalize with Israel until the liberation of our lands and the return of the right [of exiled Palestinians] to return," Badran said.

"We urge Arabs to hold a new summit at the beginning of next year and to revive the boycott of Israel as long as it was still occupying our lands," the DFLP spokesman said.

The PFLP and the DFLP belong to a 10-member radical Palestinian alliance which has vowed to wreck the PLO-Israeli peace deals.

Other members of the alliance include Islamic Jihad and Hamas, which launched suicide attacks this year killing 59 Israelis.

In Baghdad, the state-run press lambasted summit host Hosni Mubarak for not inviting Iraq to the summit.

The daily *Al-Jumhuriyah* said the summit's final communique "more or less adopted the worst of the American, Zionist, Kuwaiti and Saudi stands against Iraq."

"Instead of requesting that the UN lift the sanctions, they requested that Iraq comply with UN resolutions," especially those concerning the release of missing Kuwaitis, the newspaper said.

Iraq denies holding any Kuwaitis, a denial repeated by *Al-Jumhuriyah*, which called the Kuwaiti claims "lies."

Libyan official after security bundled one of Gaddafi's female aides into a car, denying her the right to walk on the red carpet along with her boss and summit host Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Gaddafi's own security kicked out three Israeli journalists from a news conference. "This guy goes out, he's Israeli," said a Libyan security man.

When journalists rushed to see Gaddafi as he walked down a staircase, the Libyan leader bent over to pick up one reporter who tripped.

Security at the hotel where heads of state were staying were involved in several clashes with journalists and officials. A senior Gulf delegate was stuck on the fire escape with security guards refusing him access to any hotel floor. "I later complained to an Egyptian minister," the delegate said.

Algerian security were more aggressive and got involved in a brief shoving match with their Egyptian counterparts who tried to stop them entering an elevator to join their president. (Reuters)

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# Hamas may be speaking with Jordanian accent

ANALYSIS  
PINHAS INBARI

**I**N his inaugural speech to the Knesset, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said Israel does not consider Islam an enemy. He said Israel distinguishes between Islam the religion, and terrorist movements using its name.

It could be understood that behind this was an appeal to Hamas to come to an understanding with Israel. If Hamas would call a halt to terrorism, it could organize, with Israel's blessing, as an ordinary political party permitted to operate in the Palestinian territories.

After a short pause, Hamas's military movement Izzadin Kassam published a leaflet in Gaza calling on the Netanyahu government to agree to a cease-fire (*hudna*) with Hamas under certain conditions - the release of Hamas prisoners, primarily the leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, and a halt to military activity against wanted Hamas activists.

At first glance it looked like an immediate response by Hamas to Netanyahu's hints, but scrutiny of the text gives a disillusioning picture of the true Hamas position. There are even doubts over the leaflet's authenticity. The crucial point was the leaflet's emphasis on conducting any cease-fire via the Palestinian Authority.

Relations between Hamas and the PA are strained, especially since Hamas publicly accused the PA of torturing its jailed activists. It is unlikely a genuine Hamas leaflet would disregard this tension. If Hamas were to negotiate a cease-fire, it would aim to achieve it through direct contacts with Israeli leaders, bypassing the PA entirely.

In this mutually acceptable scenario, the new Israeli government would achieve relative security without referring to the PLO. Yasser Arafat's prestige would be seriously diminished - to the satisfaction of both Hamas and Israel.

The authors of the leaflet were careful to establish that if "operations" continued after a cease-fire, they would be the acts of "irresponsible individuals." The implication is that it may be Amman that is mediating with Hamas to stop terrorism. In this way the Moslem Brotherhood leadership in Jordan would take the place of the Hamas leadership in Gaza.

The only way might be to convince such organizations that the new Israeli government is abandoning the Oslo agreements and moving to a new channel of political activity vis-à-vis the Arabs.

The hidden agenda of Hamas after all has always been to derail the Oslo agreements.

Hamas leaders could convince their colleagues this has been achieved with the departure of the Shimon Peres government. In which case, Hamas might be persuaded there is no point on carrying on military activities lethal to Israelis, which have the consequent effect of bringing tremendous damage to the Palestinian economy.

During the savage days of the mass terrorist attacks in Israel, Arafat blamed Jordan-based Islamists for sponsoring the offensive. And, in the wider context of regional rivalries, Egypt too is well aware that Jordan would be happy to sideline Arafat by becoming a channel of mediation between Hamas and Israel. Hence Cairo would not be a venue for

The release of Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin has been a key demand of the group. (IDF Spokesman)



The release of Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin has been a key demand of the group. (IDF Spokesman)

mediating Israel's security concerns, but Amman.

It should be clear, however, that even if the Jordanian Moslem Brotherhood could be persuaded to accept such a deal, other Islamist organizations, like the one operating with the support of Iran through Imam al-Alami would probably continue on the terrorist path.

How, could the Moslem Brotherhood in Amman manage to mediate the pro-Iranian faction to eschew violence?

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## Security at summit was a 'nightmare'

**S**ECURITY at the first Arab summit in six years was a nightmare for delegates and journalists alike, but Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, keeping alive his reputation for bold gestures, provided the most colorful and outspoken remarks.

Gaddafi flew into Cairo on Saturday for a theatrical last-minute appearance at the summit. On Sunday he flew back to Tripoli, claiming a personal exemption from the UN-imposed flight ban on Libya. "To go myself on the plane is out of this embargo," he told CNN television.

When he was met by reporters on the staircase of his hotel, Gaddafi said that as far as Libya was concerned there was nothing to choose between the new government of Binyamin Netanyahu and the previous government.

"In West Africa and Libya we don't even know the difference between Likud and Labor. We only know that Israel is occupying our land," he said. "Did they have to treat us like terrorists?" asked a

Libyan official after security bundled one of Gaddafi's female aides into a car, denying her the right to walk on the red carpet along with her boss and summit host Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

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Algerian security were more aggressive and got involved in a brief shoving match with their Egyptian counterparts who tried to stop them entering an elevator to join their president. (Reuters)

## Kuwait's Gulf war missing are not forgotten

JAY LEVINSON

**T**HE victims of the Gulf war have not been forgotten, at least not in Kuwait. There the Martyrs' Bureau, an official government office, has an extensive program to deal with survivors' families and to keep alive the memory of the victims.

During the war, 404 Kuwaiti civilians were killed by Iraqi occupation troops. According to one senior Kuwaiti police official, many of the victims were brought to their homes then executed in front of their horrified families. And since the end of the war, 54 people have lost their lives from undetected land mines.

The Martyrs' Bureau, established in June 1991, has been mandated to care for the families. In the area of social welfare, for example, the bureau is responsible for housing, whether it be repairs and maintenance of an existing dwelling or securing a governmental house. Victims' families are also entitled to generous educational benefits including scholarships for study abroad.

The definition of a surviving family includes not only spouse and children, but also parents. In that regard, special community programs have been arranged for older parents left without the helping hands of their children.

The Kuwaitis are trying to care for every aspect of life. Legal services are arranged for survivors, and psychologists monitor families to look for any unusual problems. Even Haj trips to Mecca fall within the domain of the Martyrs' Bureau.

As the Iraqis went through school curricula, and using international forums to spread the message.

Memories remain, but life in Kuwait has moved forward. Most of the war damage has been repaired. Equipment plundered by Iraq has been replaced. And progress has been a guideline. The fingerprints of all citizens had been kept on manually retrieved cards; now the system is computerized.

Despite the passage of time, enemies (or perceived enemies) have not been forgotten. Mail, trade and aviation links are still severed with Jordan, a country thought to have sided with Saddam Hussein. Hatred of Iraq is as strong as it was during the war itself.

The mono of Kuwait is clear. The imprint left by the martyrs on Kuwaiti life will not be forgotten.

Reminiscent of the Israeli experience in Sinai, every rumor of a possible grave is checked. In one case a suspected desert burial area for 19 martyrs was excavated only to yield a large stock of weapons left from the fighting.

Remembering the missing and the dead is an obligation formally given to the Martyrs' Bureau by government decree. The bureau's job is "to convey the martyrs' heroic deeds constantly, on every occasion." This has meant naming streets and buildings after the martyrs, recalling their deeds in

## Egyptian judge dismisses case against film

**A** judge this week dismissed a case by Moslem fundamentalist lawyers who were demanding \$300,000 and the banning of a film which they alleged ridiculed Islam.

Judge Amrallah Sarauel of the North Cairo Claims Court threw out the case at its first session. He cited a law passed by Parliament last month which blocks people from filing court cases who are not personally affected by them.

"These lawyers have no personal stake in this case," Samuel said. "The law has given freedom to thought and art."

The new law is aimed at stopping Moslem lawyers who have been attacking films and books on the theory that any Moslem can file suit if he feels Islam is being insulted. Secular intellectuals accused the Moslem activists of trying to muzzle free thought.

Youssef el-Badry, a former member of Parliament, and four other lawyers demanded the film, *The Birds of Darkness*, be banned, and wanted \$300,000 as compensation. The film, starring comedian Adel Imam, deals with Islamic militants trying to overthrow the government and end corruption.

The film has already been dragged through the courts by Moslem fundamentalist lawyers who demanded actress Youssra be jailed, charging scenes of her in the film were indecent. The scenes - tame by Western standards - show her in a negligee which leaves her arms and legs bare.

The campaign by lawyers has come as Islamic radicals have been fighting to overthrow Egypt's secular government and replace it with strict Islamic rule. In the past four years, more than 950 people have been killed in violent confrontations between militants and police. (AP)

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## 'Father' of Arab movie realism dies in Egypt at 81

**D**IRECTOR Salah Abu Seif, considered the father of realism in the Arab movie industry, died in Egypt this week of complications resulting from pneumonia. He was 81.

Abu Seif was one of the Arab cinema's most prominent directors, receiving many Egyptian, Arab and international awards.

He directed his first film in 1946 and leaves a library of 41 full-length features as well as a number of documentaries and short films. His highly popular films include *The Vacant Pillow* starring the late Abdel-Halim Hafez, and *A Star and an End* starring Soad Hosni. Remains of his films are favorites on Egyptian television and Arab channels.

The Middle East News Agency said Abu Seif had been hospitalized for nearly three weeks, suffering from pneumonia. He is survived by his widow and four sons. (AP)

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DAVID BAR-ILLAN

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## The economics of terror

EVEN before US Secretary of State Warren Christopher landed in Israel yesterday for his meeting with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, he made it clear that, in addition to raising the issues of the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue and IDF redeployment in Hebron, the Palestinian economic situation would be a high priority.

Given the grave condition of the Palestinian economy and its unquestionable effects on the peace process, Christopher's concerns certainly deserve high priority. If, however, the secretary of state sincerely wishes to implement policies that will give the Palestinian economy the push forward it so desperately needs, he would do well to work with the new government on styling a fresh Palestinian economic assistance policy. This should be based on American principles that both Christopher and Netanyahu well understand: accountability and market economics.

One does not need an MBA to comprehend the fact that the Palestinian economy needs immediate intensive care. Palestinian per capita GDP may drop by 20 percent this year. The closure, following the suicide bombings in February and March, has cost the Palestinian economy over \$300 million, and it continues to lose \$4 million to \$5 million a day, according to figures published earlier this week by Peace Watch. The report notes that the closure has had an especially deleterious effect on the Palestinian labor force in Israel, on the construction industry in the Gaza Strip, as well as on Palestinian fishing and agriculture.

The Palestinian Authority is constantly trying to set up public works projects that will at least provide the unemployed with the barest of subsistence wages. This was not the economic future envisioned by the US and the EU in the heady days of the signing of the Oslo agreement, when a pledged \$1.2 billion in economic assistance to the Palestinians was expected to be the first step in the construction of the "new Middle East."

What went wrong since then is no small part due to erroneous policies adopted by both the PA and the dooms. The term "accountability" can be interpreted in both a broad and narrow sense. In the broader view, the Palestinian economic condition cannot be uncoupled from the security situation in Israel. Closures have been imposed by Israel on the West Bank

and Gaza Strip in response to actions taken by terrorist organizations that were not effectively confronted by the PA.

Only visible and effective PA fulfillment of its commitments under the Oslo agreements to fully fight terrorism - by disarming militias, preventing terrorist-related individuals from enlisting in its police force, effectively punishing terrorists, and carrying out the extradition of wanted terrorists to Israel - can begin to restore Israeli security confidence sufficiently to bring about a significant easing of the closure. Indeed, any progress on the Israel-Palestinian track is dependent on the PA living up to its commitments to fight terrorism. The Netanyahu government is unlikely to go ahead with the Hebron redeployment or begin high-level talks concerning the next stage of redeployment, due later this summer, without first having satisfied itself that the PA is serious on this issue. The Clinton administration should also make it clear to the PA that further economic assistance will depend on its fulfilling these conditions.

In the narrower sense, the donor nations, with the US in the lead, must return to their original demands of economic accountability on the part of PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. The abandonment of this demand has led, as many predicted, to the loss of millions of donor dollars within the Arafat-controlled bureaucracy, and to the spending of precious resources on grandiose projects such as a sea port and airport in Gaza, which have done little to better the condition of its residents, who desperately need sewage systems, schools, hospitals, and sources of income.

Finally, the US can play a role in assisting the Palestinians by strengthening the Palestinian private sector. The problem with the vision of a "new Middle East" was that truly strong economic ties cannot be achieved between a market-based, democratic, industrial nation and centralized, tightly controlled administrations. US economic assistance aimed at supporting private market initiatives, rather than the top levels of Palestinian bureaucracy, could be the most effective American gift to the Palestinian economy. Similarly, American support of greater Israeli-Palestinian trade and investment in the private sector, rather than leading to an Israeli economic hegemony so feared by elements in the Arab world, could bring the beginnings of longer-term economic hope for the fledgling Palestinian autonomy.

## Off to America



## Cairo: Land for threats

THE government ought to be more concerned by Monday's radio report that the IDF favors "evacuating" Hebron than by any announcement from Cairo on the perils of renegeing on agreements.

Announcing the military's stand on controversial political issues isn't normal practice in a democracy, although the chief of staff, who represents the army to the political echelon, is empowered, indeed obliged, to make recommendations to the government only.

However, he has no business reporting his opinion on a sensitive issue like Hebron to the Palestinian Authority. No senior IDF officer has the authority to reveal, prior to the reopening of negotiations with the PA, the army's concern that its failure to leave Hebron may cause an upsurge of violence. Even if this assessment is correct, publicizing it can only encourage Palestinian terrorism.

The previous government's undertaking regarding Hebron didn't mention evacuation, only redeployment. And the practicalities of that will be determined by the new government, currently facing another pitfall: the question of redeployment in Area B, which covers most of Judea and Samaria. Oslo 2's date for redeployment in that area is September 7, and the way it's done in Hebron will serve as a precedent for the implementation of the agreement's next stage.

Our politicians and press, adopting Arab terminology, talk about the "evacuation" of Hebron, when the correct term is redeployment. Worse, they refer to the Oslo agreement as an international treaty.

Secretary Christopher, a lawyer, is quite aware that the Oslo accord is not recognized as an international treaty under the definition of the Vienna Covenant. Certainly all commit-

ments should be honored, but always and only on the condition that each side complies.

Christopher also knows that Israel didn't go to Madrid on the basis of "land for peace," as Mubarak claimed at the Cairo summit. What president Bush spoke of at Madrid was territorial compromise in the framework of a comprehensive peace.

### Who's afraid of Arab summits?

It is crystal-clear that Oslo was a bilateral commitment. So when Muammar Gaddafi quotes Yasser Arafat as having told him that the Palestinian Covenant hasn't been amended, and when the PA refuses to extradite to Israel murderers who struck on Israeli soil, there are good grounds for conditioning the continuation of redeployment on Palestinian honoring of commitments made.

At the Cairo summit, moreover, Farouk Kaddoumi claimed that the Palestinian representatives at the summit were not PA but PLO, and that he, as head of the PLO's political department, was dissociating himself from the Oslo agreement.

The PA is wrong if it believes that the support it mustered in Cairo will enable it to impose conditions on Israel.

Arafat should look back to May 1990, when a summit convened in Baghdad on his initiative discussed emergency Arab measures to counter the flow of aid from the USSR. The election in 1996 of Natan Sharansky and his people to the Knesset, and the growth of aid, underlines the failure of the decisions the Arabs took in

Baghdad. Even before Arafat was elected PLO chairman, Arab summits resolved to divert the Jordan and the Yarmuk rivers to diminish our water supply. They established joint commands for "the war against Israel," but these remained on paper.

In 1989, an Arab summit in support of the intifada, contributed very little to the Palestinian cause. No Arab summit gave the Oslo agreement to the Palestinians, and no Arab summit will help Arafat gain Jerusalem as capital of a Palestinian state.

Had our government not responded to the Cairo summit in any way, its silence would have echoed far louder than any statement from the premier or the foreign minister.

It would have sent this message to all the Arabs: "Don't threaten us. We are ready to talk to every Arab party on its own, but we refuse to become involved in your shows of unity. We know that behind the trappings of unity lies great dissension - but that's your affair."

"If you want a dialogue with Israel you'll have to forgo all threats about 'an alternative to peace,' not to mention your ultimatum - implementation of your requests within eight weeks."

"We don't believe you have an alternative to peace, and we ourselves aren't looking for any alternatives to peace, despite your stockpiling of long-range missiles."

It is regrettable that the government felt it had to react to the Cairo summit, more regrettable still that the radio announcement of the IDF's position on Hebron gave those assembled in Cairo the impression that making threats to Israel was a useful thing to do.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

## US should rethink Lebanon strategy

DAVID MAKOVSKY

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher should seize upon the change of leadership in Israel as an opportunity to crown his tenure with a daring, yet feasible, achievement: getting Israel and Syria to come to terms on an IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

The previous government's assumption was that the IDF would stay in Lebanon until there was a "package deal" involving a peace treaty with Damascus.

Yet, since the election of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, almost everyone believes the Syrian track - even if it is to be revived from its moribund state - will be more motion than movement. Therefore, there should be new US thinking on southern Lebanon.

This is particularly important, because the Netanyahu government has no discernible exit strategy from southern Lebanon. There is neither a grand political package deal in the offing nor, as Israel's last 14 years in Lebanon have proved, is there a military option of defeating Hizbullah, which has public support for its guerrilla warfare.

WHILE defense officials insist a unilateral exit from the security zone may create border threats, they - like many in Labor and even the Likud -

### The little known secret of Damascus is that it prefers the IDF to remain in southern Lebanon

believe Israel should get out of Lebanon. This, on condition the Lebanese Army deploy southward and does to Hizbullah as it did to a dozen other militias in Lebanon over the past few years: disarm them.

A creative move for US diplomacy would be to galvanize a broad Arab coalition, led by President Bill Clinton, which would publicly throw down the gauntlet to Damascus: enable the Lebanese Army to deploy in southern Lebanon and disarm Hizbullah, with a prior commitment by Israel to exit after six months of successful disarmament.

Should Damascus decide to reject these terms, the US would make it clear to one and all that it holds Damascus responsible for Israel continuing to occupy Arab soil.

This would unmask before the world the little known secret of Damascus - that it prefers the IDF to remain in southern Lebanon. It sees the IDF deployment in the security zone as ensuring that Israel bleeds and, therefore, as its most important lever to get a militarily powerful Israel to yield the Golan Heights.

Everyone else has an interest in getting Israel out of Lebanon.

The Lebanese would be able to extend their sovereignty in the South. The Arab world could point to Israel leaving Lebanon as a victory. For its part, Israel has always said it does not covet a square centimeter of Lebanese soil and that it would leave once security arrangements are in place. Moreover, Netanyahu could show himself to be a peacemaker and, at the same time, remove a thorn that has cost Israel too much blood.

According to remarks by President Bill Clinton last week, Damascus has miscalculated over the last four years and lost opportunities to obtain the Golan. Yet, with the Golan talks in deep freeze, it is either Lebanon or nothing.

Syria must be faced with a choice: to be seen as the exodus that brought about Israel's entry from Arab soil or be blamed as the country that ensured Israel's remaining in Lebanon for the indefinite future.

Should Christopher succeed in putting together secure terms for Israel's exit, ending 14 years of bloodshed in southern Lebanon, this alone would justify his 24 trips to the Middle East and enshrine his contribution to the region.

The writer is diplomatic correspondent of The Jerusalem Post. The views expressed are not necessarily those of the paper.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### LUDICROUS STATEMENTS

Sir, - Former Likud official Moshe Amirav's admission of his "long series of meetings with Faisal Husseini and other PLO figures" came as both a shock and a dreadfully disturbing fact as the Likud once again returns to power ("From ideological pain to compromise," June 14). For him to publicly flaunt his violation of the law, when in 1987 he met with these enemies of the Jewish State and people, was shocking enough. But to hear the content of the "message" he sent them was nothing less than appalling. He admits readiness to "give up Hebron," and to "moving" our enemies by "showing them the ideological pain he felt at the sacrifice of our ancestral heritage."

How could Amirav be shocked at the PLO's "enthusiastic reaction to dialogue with a representative of Greater Israel"? Anyone who is aware of the PLO's 1974 Plan of Stages knows that this is the road to implementation of the PLO's plan to dismember and destroy the State of Israel. Their plan is to first obtain as much land as possible during a negotiated settlement, and then use that area as a staging ground for attack on Israel. One doesn't achieve step one of the plan without a negotiated settlement, hence their delight at the willing and talkative Mr. Amirav.

Amirav's suggestion that sacrificing one's ancestral heritage has any

comparison whatsoever with the world's leading terror organization's willingness to "give up a claim to Galilee" is just unfathomable. The Jewish people are a nation which became permanently tied to the Land of Israel. In the millennia of Diaspora, our one hope as a people was to return to the Land of Israel. Tell the Jews persecuted, tortured, burned and slaughtered throughout the centuries your thoughts of "historical compromise," Moshe. You'd be ashamed to even think such thoughts in their presence.

Amirav stressed his origins in the Betar movement, but displayed his obvious lack of knowledge of Jabotinsky's ideology. Jabotinsky, first and foremost, stressed the proud, strong Jew, one who fought against the nations of the world if they tried to attack or destroy the Jewish people or homeland. His desire to abandon those vital things which created and held the Jewish people together is hopefully not shared by his colleagues in the Likud.

Better late than never to begin talking to our enemies as we should have all along - from a position of strength, not surrender, and from a position of Jewish pride, something sorely lacking in both the Rabin and Peres governments... and lacking in Amirav.

SHAYNA SCHECHTER  
Jerusalem.

### STEREOTYPES

Sir, - Although Mr. Newman's article of June 13, "seeing is believing," rightly points out the divisions between observant and secular Jews in Israel, I was troubled by his comment that he does not wear his kippa all the time any more because it stereotypes him into which group he belongs. The purpose of wearing a kippa is to show a man's "fear of God" - a sign that he acknowledges God's existence and sovereignty over mankind. When one wears a kippa for the right reason, one is unconcerned as to others' perceptions of which political group or religious group he belongs to.

I would be delighted to hear from Mr. Newman in his next article that he has accepted my suggestion to wear his kippa all the time and if he puts anything away in his pocket, it should be his round-rimmed eyeglasses, which can always be traded in for contact lenses.

BEN ROSE  
Rehovot.

### ETHICAL JOURNALISM

Sir, - I thought Mr. Bar-Ilan was rightly indignant when Shimon Peres quoted an imprisoned Hamas mass murderer to prove that suicide bombings were designed to overthrow his government. But when Hassan Salameh, another Hamas mass murderer, said that his orders were to stage only minor attacks before the elections in order not to overthrow the government, Bar-Ilan quotes this greater inanity as an obvious truth.

Then on June 7, Bar-Ilan wrote that a radio report of two Hamas activists seeing Sheikh Ahmed Yassin in prison to receive orders not to attack Israelis until the elections were over was further proof that Hamas was not trying to overthrow Peres. But surely the Hamas activists were brought before Yassin precisely because the government believed this was their strategy, which only Yassin could change.

I conclude that Mr. Bar-Ilan is driven not by passion for truth, but by an agenda, and that his stance on behalf of ethical journalism is a sham.

HERMAN MINTZ  
Tel Aviv.

Mr. Mintz seems to forget that Mr. Peres relied on the testimony of a Hamas prisoner in a Palestinian prison, while Salameh spoke at an Israeli hospital. - Ed. J.P.

### BLANK BALLOTS

Sir, - It seems wrong to change the rules of blank ballots after the game is over and lost. But maybe there is reason to reconsider the rules for future similar situations. Three considerations for reflection:

1. It is clearly not the intention of the voter who casts a blank ballot not to be counted. If that were the case, he would choose the easier way: to stay home and not cast a ballot at all.

2. If the blank ballots are not counted, there is no way for the voter to make his disapproval of both candidates effective as far as the result of the election is concerned.

3. When there are only two candidates, the paragraph in the law stipulating that when neither of the candidates gets 50 percent of the votes, the election has to be repeated, loses its significance when blank ballots are not counted.

DR. D.I. JACOBS  
Tel Aviv.

### DISHEARTENED

Sir, - Never could I have anticipated how disheartened I would be by the results of the elections. Netanyahu represents the very worst combination of American-style politics and retrospective Israeli macho toughness. How many more Israeli lives must be lost to have Israel show the world how "tough" it is? The world had acknowledged Israel's courage and is no longer necessary to prove it again.

When Peres and Rabin shook Arafat's hand on the White House lawn, the earth moved. We gain so much more with peace and negotiation than we ever can with Netanyahu's promise of a "gun in each Israeli's hand" and a vow never to shake Arafat's hand.

Israel has given the Arabs exactly the leverage they need to prove the value of their mindless terrorism.

JEROME J. SCHAUFELED  
Farmingham, Massachusetts.

## The great screen scream

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

IMAGINE what the blacksmiths of 1896 felt when they looked up and saw their first automobile. I know. I am a newspaper columnist in 1996, and for the last six months I've been trying out the Net. The future - mine, anyway - is bleak.

My colleague Richard Harwood is convinced that "whatever success the electronic faction achieves in the millennium to come, the newspaper will remain an important part of our lives and our culture." I hope he is right. I think he is wrong. I have been over into the future, and it works.

The future is not print. The great advantage of newspapers, of course, is that they are familiar and convenient. You can hold 'em. You can fold 'em. You can carry them around, divvy them up between readers, and, when you are done, use them as kindling.

Computers are clunky. It takes time and bother to get on the Net, time and bother to find what you are looking for, time and bother to download.

True, but at the turn of the century starting an automobile was also hard. It was much easier to mount a horse than crank up the starter, release the hand brake, get in gear and start yourself rolling down the road. Then came the ignition key.

It will come for computers too. Search engines are becoming more powerful and easy to use. Customization will soon allow you to tell the computer what kinds of stuff you want - Orioles' box scores, vegetarian recipes, articles by columnists whose last name begins with K - and it will have them waiting for you with your morning coffee.

Michael Kinsley, who launches State, his new online magazine, this week, notes that around 1989 you stopped asking people, "Do you have a fax number?" In 1996, you stopped asking people, "Do

you have an e-mail address?" The Gutenberg age is going to end with the 20th century. First to go will be the newspaper. Then the magazine. Then the book.

Their paper versions, that is. They will all find a new life on screen, on disk and online. What is dying is printing, not writing. It is our way of transmitting words

stuff together. Eighty percent goes into the physical transformation of thoughts into ink and paper and logging them about until they get into your hands.

Print will die of this waste and expense. It will die, too, because it is so slow to transmit - the speed of trucks vs. the speed of light - and so environmentally unsustainable. (One would think that the progressive intellectuals who make their living spreading ink on what used to be trees might be more sensitive to the ecological consequences of their nostalgia for print.)

Online reading, however, has one last hurdle to overcome before its final triumph: scrolling. "Reading large bodies of text scrolled up on a computer screen is a tedious, inefficient and probably unhealthy activity," writes Harwood. "The human eye is ill-suited for that kind of work."

Right on. It is curious that the most advanced form of information transmission should be reaching back 2,000 years in reading technique. Look something up in a Torah scroll, for example, and, if you happen to start at the wrong end, it can take you 15 minutes (although it will provide you with an excellent upper body workout).

Here's my prediction: Internet publishing conquers the world as soon as the nerds come up with the perfect computer simulation of book reading. How? Put the text on the screen in the form of two facing pages - with a mouse click on the bottom right corner to turn the page, or on a choice of page numbers if you want to skip around.

I give this advice out for free. I know it will make somebody very rich. But I just don't feel right profiting from the demise of my fellow blacksmiths.

(c) Washington Post Writers Group

Text will survive video but paper won't survive the computer

— not words themselves — that is obsolete.

Nor will pictures conquer the word (as portrayed, for example, in *Fahrenheit 451*). Not even moving pictures will. Writing will survive video because video is 90 percent junk, great for the senses, but, for conveying ideas, a huge waste of megabytes.

Think of, say, a TV news report on the rise in gasoline prices: narration turned up with perfectly useless pictures of tankers, refineries and people pumping gas. Close your eyes and you miss nothing.

BUT WHILE text will survive video, paper will not survive the computer. At the turn of the century text will forever leave paper and take up residence online.

No need for mourning. Clay tablets gave way to papyrus, sheepskin scrolls to bound books, illuminated manuscripts to Gutenberg type. In the end, each revolution was for the better.

For the typical newspaper, for example, only 20 percent of the costs are editorial, i.e., paying the writers and editors to put the

group

group

אשר יצא לאור

# BGU gets the Weidenfeld clout

The visionary British publisher Lord Weidenfeld is now focusing on Ben-Gurion University, David Isaacson writes



Weidenfeld: Sciences and humanities are becoming interwoven more often. (Sara Ushitz)

IN these times, when the former prime minister fancies himself as a prophet, and a 106-year-old kabbalist can determine the result of a general election through quasi-mystical charms, it's edifying to meet a genuine visionary, one whose foresight has repeatedly been borne out by events.

As a 13-year-old in Vienna in the 1930s, George Weidenfeld espoused Zionism while numerous Jews were being baptized in a desperate rush to assimilate.

In 1945, as a refugee in Britain, he published the young Harold Wilson's *The Future of Coal* before Wilson was even an MP. (As prime minister, Wilson later elevated Weidenfeld to the peerage.)

Fifty years later, recognizing both its inevitability and even perhaps its desirability, he advocated the reunification of Germany. Chancellor Kohl is said to have sought Weidenfeld's advice on the issue.

And it's more than 11 years since he predicted the rise of Binyamin Netanyahu, Yossi Beilin, Ehud Olmert and Avraham Burg.

In Israel recently to accept his new position as chairman of the Board of Governors of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Lord Weidenfeld has been turning his attention to the university's future.

The key to learning in the modern world, he believes, is interdisciplinary studies; or, as he puts it in characteristically worldly-wise and eloquent style, "flexibility that's not calcified through vested interests and bureaucracy."

In the tradition of C.P. Snow, whose 1960 published lecture *The Two Cultures and the Scientific Revolution* was a landmark in advocating greater understanding between the sciences and humanities, Weidenfeld says that "more and more, the sciences and humanities are becoming interwoven."

"The Internet raises problems of intellectual copyright, so that's a legal issue. Then there are ethical problems - can you have pornography? And the Internet also raises educational issues."

Weidenfeld points out that developments in the Middle East are particularly appropriate to the interdisciplinary approach as history, politics, comparative religion and languages merge into each other's spheres.

According to Dror Ze'evi, head of the Department of Middle East Studies at Ben-Gurion University, "Lord Weidenfeld's visit inspired the university; his enthusiasm spread to contributors and faculty alike."

"Ze'evi says the university is becoming a regional center in a very real sense. We bring researchers from Egypt, Jordan, Tunisia to teach and work for a whole semester. This is probably a first in the country when it comes to Middle East studies."

One of Weidenfeld's main aims is to raise the university's international profile. He's looking, he says, to "a massive program of visiting professors, important intellectual

giants and ambassadors of goodwill such as [British historian] Bernard Lewis and [strategic expert] Edward Luttwak."

Such is the British publishing magnate and sociable internationalist, it is difficult to imagine anyone turning him down. His connections are legendary, the stories about him - ever since his Vienna days, when he fought a saber duel with a Nazi - are legion.

In 1949 he was president Chaim Weizmann's personal aide cum political counselor. "They thought I could help mitigate the tensions between Weizmann and Ben-Gurion," he says. "I would have lived here were it not for Weidenfeld and Nicolson [the publishing house which he was in the process of establishing in London] and my financial commitment to other people."

The following year, in charge of fighting moves to internationalize Jerusalem, he went

to Lake Success to persuade the UN of Israel's position. His Operation Jerusalem was "an intensive campaign to combat the UN initiative to deny Jerusalem, even the new city, to the State of Israel."

And in the 1970s, in the wake of a disinformation campaign being waged against Harold Wilson, he returned to the US to meet with then-CIA chief George Bush, and to get a "kashrut certificate" for the Labor government.

His gift for diplomacy - particularly behind the scenes - is perhaps his greatest talent. He brought together leading international opinion-formers: Lloyd Cutler (an adviser to President Clinton), German Jewish community leader Ignatz Bubis, British Eurocrat Sir Leon Brittan, Lord Rothschild, David Kimche (a former director of Israel's Foreign Ministry) and Shlomo Avineri (Israeli writer and academic) to help foster "good relations between Germany and Jews, Germany and Israel, and Jews and Christians (especially Catholics)."

This, he says, is one of the things about his long career with which he's most gratified. Following the controversy surrounding the Carmelite convent at Auschwitz, he is said to have played a leading role in reconciling the Vatican and the Jewish world through his warm relationship with Pope John Paul II.

Weidenfeld's history of support for Israel on the diplomatic front is almost without parallel. An influential player in the British establishment, he has been one of Israel's leading supporters in the House of Lords.

So the new prime minister (another longtime confidant of the British peer) would be well advised to heed Weidenfeld's words on the peace process. Although Weidenfeld describes himself as "a congenial optimist" who feels that "in the long run, peace is probable, the process irreversible," he confesses to being "frightened in the short term, not due to crises resulting from policy decisions but from the unexpected, or the danger of psychological mistakes. Face-saving is very important."

He quotes the 19th-century statesman Metternich's definition of diplomacy (later echoed by Henry Kissinger) as "building a ladder for the other fellow to step down gracefully." The potential problem is that the ladder could be badly built.

But he won't be drawn on this country's new administration. "Committed and active Zionists abroad must work for [Israel's] democratically elected government unless or until their conscience doesn't allow it because the government's actions are *ultra vires*." Such actions have never happened; Weidenfeld avers that "Nothing any Israeli government has done has given me any twinge of conscience."

## Ways to connect with the kids

PARENTING  
RUTH MASON

AS busy parents, most of us spend our time with the kids simply getting through the routines of the day: helping them dress, making their meals, getting them to and from school, car-pooling to dance classes, taking them to the doctor or to a friend's house, helping with homework, bathing them and putting them to bed.

In between, we've got to do the dishes and the laundry, clean the house and shop for groceries - and hopefully say more than two words to our spouses.

In the midst of this hectic existence, how can we find time to connect to our kids? And if we manage to find the time, how do we successfully make that connection?

When we want to spend emotionally gratifying time with a friend, we sit over a cup of coffee or have a meal together - or even just speak on the phone - and talk. But as any of you who have tried to connect with young children know, it doesn't usually work.

"Kids are different from adults," says Dr. David Yammer, a psychologist at New York's Abraham Joshua Heschel School, who recently spent a year in Jerusalem. "We measure our connection by words. They measure it through play."

If, like me, you are the kind of parent who just doesn't get off on pushing matchbox cars around the living-room floor or dressing and undressing Barbie dolls, don't despair. You can spend satisfying time with your children doing what you like to do.

Ask yourself: What activities give me the most pleasure? And then see which of those you can share with your children. My list included singing, walking in nature, reading and yes, talking.

The following are the first four of 10 activities I can suggest for you and your child to enjoy together. (The second five are in next week's column.)

### SINGING

The best thing about singing is that it doesn't take up any time. You can sing while doing the dinner dishes or driving to the store.

My husband, Bob, and I have always sung to our babies and Ilana, now 11, was singing before she was talking.

When Ilana was five, I started sitting her down to listen to my favorite Judy Collins songs. And when she comes home from school with a new song, I write down the words and she teaches me the tune.

As a result, Ilana and I now often walk down the street singing "I Feel Walk Down the Street Singing." There aren't any exquisite moments when our voices blend perfectly, our eyes meet and we share a smile. And the next and we go both ways. The sharing now goes into the other day. Ilana came into the kitchen while one of her cassettes was playing and said, "Mom, please listen to this song. I want you to hear

every verse. It's great."

### COMPUTERS

One day, Bob and Yosef, then seven, were in the middle of a heated argument about a handmade bookmark made for Yosef by a friend that Bob had accidentally torn. Yosef was in tears. Minutes later he was sitting, relaxed and smiling, on his Dad's lap as they tried out a new computer game together.

Yosef: "Nuts! You lost your rope."  
Bob: "Twenty-five thousand gold doubloons! You have a lot of money, Yosef."

Yosef (smiling with satisfaction): "Wow! You're right."  
Bob: "Ooo. Add 1,200 doubloons, two hostages, rope and food to your booty. You're a great pirate, Yosef."

Yosef (softly, with another delighted smile): "I love this."

### READING

Even during the busiest of times, a night-time snuggle with a good book is a wonderful, relaxing way for your child to end the day.

Screenwriter Leora Barish (*Desperately Seeking Susan*) loves to discuss characters with Max, 11, and Eliza, eight. "We talk about what we like and what we don't like about them, and what we identify with and which reminds us of our friends," says Barish.

"In *Little Women*, Jo isn't jealous of a boy's crush on Meg. Isn't that interesting? We talk about which characters would be jealous and which wouldn't, or how a favorite character is dealing with a conflict with a friend."

"It's a nice way to talk about important things because it's indirect. There's no emotional heat. We can disagree more easily and I learn a lot about the way my kids see themselves and the world."

### TOUCH

A five-minute bedtime back-rub can relax both you and your child and give your child the comfort of your touch and quiet presence. Some children who are otherwise reluctant to talk about problems may open up during this time and tell you what's on their minds.

"My son had to have his tonsils out when he was seven.

I had done everything to prepare him, including going to visit the hospital together, but he wasn't talking about it at all," recalls Vimala Schneider, author of *Infant Massage* (Bantam, 1989).

"The night before the surgery, I gave him a back-rub and asked, 'What did you think about our trip to the hospital?' He started talking. 'He asked lots of questions, Would he die? Would he be able to talk when he woke up? He needed the permission to be vulnerable that massage gives him. He opened up and got the reassurance he needed."

## Bringing democracy to Africa

THE radios are everywhere. Men in this predominantly Moslem nation carry them to prayers. Women listen in the markets. Youngsters tote tiny transistors as they hop along the street.

Malians have long depended on radio, but since democracy arrived five years ago, the popularity of that form of entertainment and information has boomed. In 1991 Malians had only one station - long controlled by the country's autocratic regimes. Today they have 40.

The ubiquitous radios are perhaps the most striking of many signs that Mali has transformed itself into a working democracy, built on freedom of expression, the beginnings of a market economy and Mali's own history as an ancient African empire whose artifacts still litter the villages.

The changes in this landlocked West African nation of 10 million people - a sparsely populated stretch along the edge of the Sahara where nomads still roam on lumbering camels - are especially significant on a continent where many democracies that formed in recent years have stumbled, returning to authoritarian ways.

"It is as if Mali has looked at the mistakes of other African countries and has decided that its democracy will not fall into the same traps," said a Western embassy official.

Six years ago, as the Cold War was ending, it looked as though West Africa might embrace democracy. Mass demonstrations swept capitals from Dakar, Senegal, on the westernmost bulge, to Libreville, Gabon, nearly 3,200 km. east on the equator.

Single-party governments across the region promised - under domestic and international pressure - to hold elections. Mali's own democratic revolution came in early 1991, propelled by student demonstrations.

Since then, however, most of Mali's neighbors have developed wobbly democracies at best; most of those have seen their new systems fall into disarray.

Military coups have shaken Niger and Gambia. The strongman who dominated Togo, Gabon and Cameroon remain in tight control after holding elections widely considered to be fraudulent. In Ivory Coast, the president has muzzled all opposition - especially the media - and dozens were killed in violence during elections late last year.

The region's cornerstone - powerful, populous, oil-rich Nigeria - has wobbled since a military coup in 1985 that a return to democracy was imminent. But timetables have been scrapped, elections nullified and promises broken, and the coun-



A newspaper vendor in Bamako, Mali, offers a number of options where until just recently a government-run paper was the only one available. (Stephen Buckley/Washington Post)

try remains under repressive military rule.

Aside from Mali, only Benin, which in March held its second free presidential election, has a seemingly viable, long-term democracy in place. Benin's constitutional court announced that ex-Marxist military ruler Mathieu Kerekou had defeated incumbent President Nicephore Soglo.

Indeed, Mali's move to permit the media free rein defies a trend throughout Africa, where leaders have smothered outlets that offend them. Along with the blossoming of new radio stations, Mali has about 60 newspapers. For decades, only the government newspaper was available.

In recent months, Mali also has trodden on the continent's commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Criticize Thy Neighbor," blasting Nigeria's executions of nine political activists late last year and condemning the recent coup in Niger.

The moves have drawn praise from human-rights groups such as New York-based Freedom House, which has added Mali to its list of "free" nations.

Perhaps most important, Mali's government, led by President Alpha Oumar Konare, has stepped away from oppressive economic policies employed by previous regimes. Mali has privatized most government-owned companies, opened itself up to foreign investors and sought to stir more domestic investment.

Hamadou Sylla pursued a foreign partner for his company for a decade. He finally got one in 1994.

"They did not trust the previous regime," Sylla said. "They felt the situation was unstable.

And then the government did not care about helping business."

Modibo Diallo, who owns Radio Bamako, the city's most popular station, said the avalanche of print and broadcast outlets has rejuvenated political and social debate. In restaurants, at work, sitting beneath ever-present mango trees, Malians appear to be perpetually arguing.

"It is as if the people have learned to breathe," Diallo said. "And for the first time, the people in power must think before they act, because there is now accountability that did not exist before."

Yet critics of Konare call for still more openness, and they worry that government has not done enough to tackle major problems, such as an 80 percent adult-illiteracy rate.

Others worry that the government, for all its progressive economic policies, remains a presence in some of Mali's strongest industries. The government, for example, holds the controlling stake in the main cotton-producing company. Mali produces 400,000 tons of cotton annually.

Yet Malians shrug off such worries, reminding visitors that they were a nation long before they embraced modern-day democracy. They are quick to note that their 12 ethnic groups governed themselves for centuries before French colonization.

Each ethnic group governed a region of the empire. The governors of each region had to work together to preserve economic and political balance. The result: one of Africa's more stable and powerful empires.

(The Washington Post)



The best service award in Tel Aviv's luxury hotels

# Who won 1st prize?

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The first prize for best service in Tel-Aviv's luxury hotels was awarded to the Sheraton Tel-Aviv by the Tel-Aviv-Yafo Association for Tourism. The award was made following spot checks conducted by the Association's unidentified inspectors.

In these times you cannot AFFORD to be without THE JERUSALEM POST INTERNATIONAL EDITION

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wednesday, June 26, 1996

## FIBI, Aurek set up credit card company

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

FIRST International Bank of Israel (FIBI) in partnership with the Aurek Group has established a new credit card company that is expected to enhance the sector's competitiveness.

FIBI managing director Shlomo Piotrovsky said the company was set up several weeks after the board of directors of Visa International, EU region, approved a principal member status for the bank, giving it the ability to issue cards and acquire merchants.

Fibi has a 67 percent share in the new company while Aurek owns the remaining 33%. The bank refused to reveal its investment in the company.

Aurek Group is engaged in data communications and media services and includes Golden Pages, Golden Channels and Amdocs. The company is jointly owned by the Kahan Group and the American communications group SBC Communications, previously known as Southwestern Bell Corp.

The new company will compete with Israel Credit Cards (ICC), which up until now has been the only full license of Visa in Israel and also other credit card companies such as Isracard. In many countries there are two or more full licenses of Visa competing among themselves in line with Visa's policy to encourage competition.

An ICC spokesperson said ICC does not plan to make life easy for its new competitor. Isracard general manager Haim Kubersky said,

"We are following developments and learning the issue."

FIBI has appointed Yu'acov Dior to manage the company. Dior served as managing director of ICC for more than seven years until May 1995.

The company will begin issuing Visa cards to all bank customers during 1997 using a new computer system. The new cards will have photographs of their holders and will probably also include an electronic chip, capable of storing information and which will eventually become part of the future "electronic wallet."

"The establishment of the company is part of the preparations of the bank toward anticipated developments in the banking world in the next century," said Piotrovsky.

Among the leading commercial banks, three are already engaged in issuing credit cards. Bank Hapoalim has a 100% share in Isracard (including Eurocard) and also has a license to issue American Express cards, while Bank Leumi and Israel Discount Bank together own ICC, 65% and 35% respectively. ICC represents Visa and Diners Club in Israel.

There are 2.2 million issued credit cards in Israel, having an annual turnover of NIS 35 billion and representing about 20% of consumer expenditure. According to a market survey recently conducted for the new company, 29% of all adults hold Visa cards and 29% hold Isracard.

## South African group signs intent to buy 52.4% of Israel General Bank

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

INVESTEC Group, one of the largest banking groups in South Africa, yesterday signed a letter of intent to purchase Baron Edmond de Rothschild's 52.4 percent stake in Israel General Bank (IGB) for \$48.2 million in the framework of its strategic decision to invest in Israel.

The letter of intent was signed with Isrop Participations SA, which is part of La Compagnie Financiere Edmond de Rothschild Banque, a French-Swiss financial group owned by Baron Edmond de Rothschild. The transaction price is based on a bank value of \$92m.

Investec is an international group which operates commercial banks and investment banks, focusing on providing financial services and private banking. The group's assets total \$13b., while shareholders equity is \$700m.

Clal Issuing, the investment banking arm of Clal Israel which initiated the transaction, said Investec intends to continue IGB's current activities while expanding some of them. The company said IGB will continue to operate autonomously and that the current management and employees will remain. IGB is a small commercial bank with three branches in Tel

Aviv, Haifa and Jerusalem. The bank's balance sheet totaled NIS 700m. at the end of 1995. About one month ago Rothschild announced plans to sell his holdings in IGB, as part of the family's interest in reducing its investments in Israel. It has been reported that the baron himself is very ill and his son Benjamin is not interested in investing here.

For the purchase of IGB, Investec competed against Union Bank, First International Bank, Bank of Jerusalem in partnership with its parent company, Export Investment, the Etgar Fund, and a group of investors from North America. It is reported that the other consortia' initial bids ranged from \$40m. to \$46m.

Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles said, "The Bank of Israel has always seen the entrance of new investors into the Israeli economy and the Israeli banking sector as a positive development, especially if the investors concerned are banks. This, of course, is subject to the fact that they meet our requirements and pass our examinations to receive a permit."

The transaction also fits in with the Bank of Israel's policy to reduce the degree of concentration in the banking system and promote competition.

According to the letter of intent, an agreement will be signed within two weeks. The transaction remains subject to the approval of the Supervisor of Banks, Supervisor of Monopolies at the Ministry of Industry and Trade and authorities in South Africa.

It will take the Bank of Israel about two months to conduct its examination of the group. During the last few weeks Abeles has received positive recommendations on Investec from the Supervisor of Banks in South Africa and also England.

In 1986, Investec went public on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and since then it has increased its operations locally and internationally. The bank's international acquisitions include the British financial group Reichmans, which is active in the major international financial markets and the British Allied Trust Bank. The company also has a significant holding in Insinger, a Netherlands-based bank. Investec's net income reached \$65m. for the year ending March 1996.

## Foreign Ministry denies link to Turkish-Cypriot tourism

DAVID HARRIS

AN as yet unidentified Israeli businessman is being linked to a proposed \$100 million tourism venture planned for Turkish-controlled northern Cyprus, the *Cyprus Mail* recently reported.

The Nicosia-based, Greek-Cypriot newspaper said the unnamed entrepreneur is part of a consortium that intends to build a 5,000-bed facility near Famagusta, which received 60,000 tourists a year.

The Israeli government denied press reports that it is involved. "We are not involved in any way in alleged economic and private initiatives on northern Cyprus," said Yigal Palmor, the Foreign Ministry's deputy spokesman.

Israel's involvement in such a project would undoubtedly cause tensions between Jerusalem, Nicosia, and Greece. Following Cyprus' 1974 civil war, Greece has considered the north, which is only recognized diplomatically by Turkey, to be a no-go area.

"We don't support any investment in northern Cyprus," said a Greek government official yesterday. "For us it's like occupied territory."

The Greek Embassy in Tel Aviv said it is not aware of any such plans. Cyprus officials say any investment is illegal and financially futile. While Nicosia may not be able to prevent such activities, one source said it will make it very difficult for anyone wanting to trade on the island.

## Jewish Agency assembly approves 1996 budget

Jerusalem Post Staff

THE Jewish Agency assembly yesterday approved a \$525 million budget for 1996 that includes a \$106m. deficit, reflecting flat fund-raising from the US.

The budget also reflects the agency's transfer in the fall of its Youth Aliya program to the government.

The agency has cut \$50m. from this year's programs as part of a plan to save \$500m. by the year 2000.

Agency activities in the former Soviet Union will cost an estimated \$137.8m compared with \$148.9m. in 1995. Aliya accounts

for 40 percent of the budget with 60% for absorption. The Jewish Agency expects another 70,000 immigrants this year, 60,000 of them from the former Soviet Union. The budget allocates \$6.2m. to Israeli institutions and projects, including the Reform and Conservative movements, which promote religious pluralism in Israel.

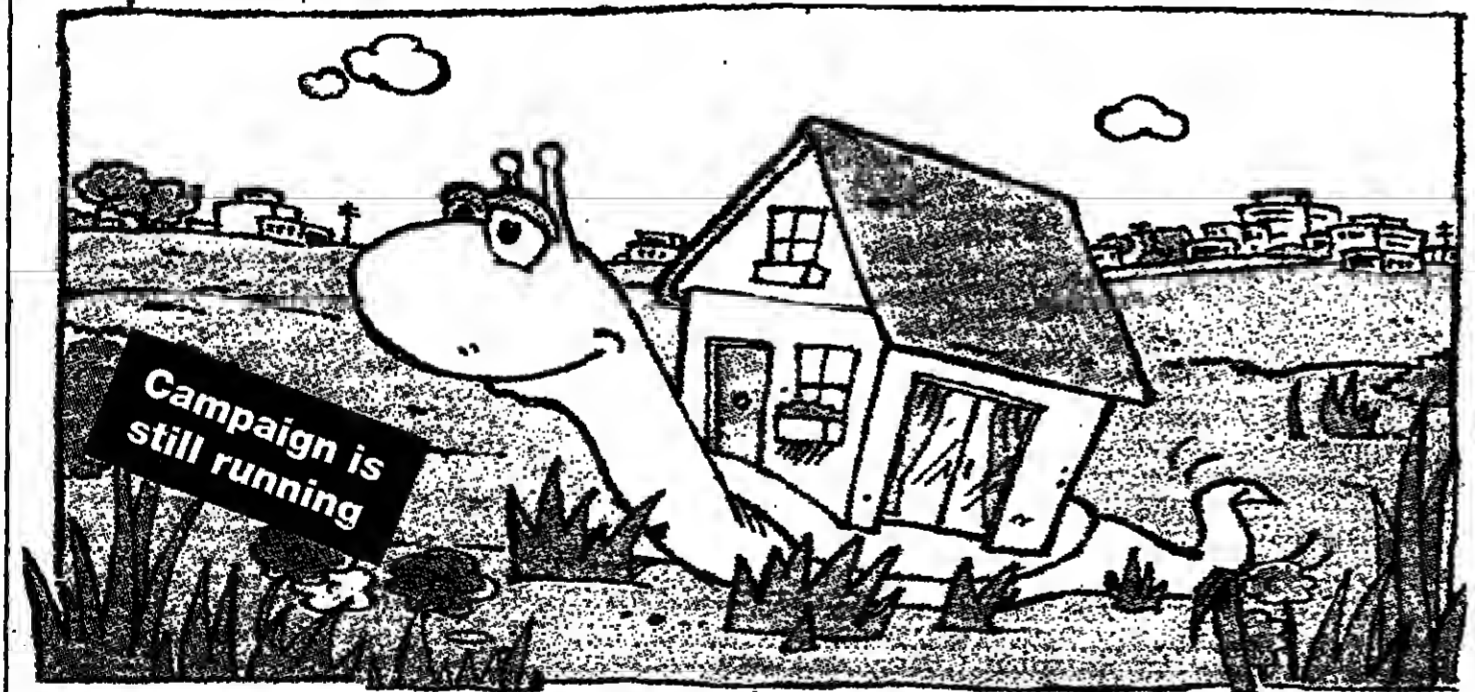
American contributions account for two-thirds of agency income, and the United Jewish Appeal is obligated next year to

raise its annual allocation by \$20m.

The US government provides \$80m. a year under a program to resettle refugees.

UJA President Richard Wexler of Chicago expects US fund-raising to be flat or show only a modest increase this year. The agency budget, however, calls for \$201m. from UJA in 1996 compared with \$198.5m. in 1995. Keren Hayesod, the Diaspora fund-raising organization outside the US, is expected to produce \$80m. in contributions in 1996 versus \$65.8m. in 1995.

## FOR HOME OWNERS CAPITALIZATION CAMPAIGN



The Israel Land Administration would like to clarify that the capitalization campaign is still running. Payment books and information leaflets are currently being mailed to home owners who pay ground rent. Payment books which are now out of date cannot be used - to receive an updated payment book, phone or call in at one of the branches listed below. (NB - The sums in updated payment books will be adjusted according to the index, and will be issued with payment schedules which must be adhered to.) For further information, contact one of the following branches:

- Central Region**
  - 53 Rehov Hamasger, 2nd floor, Tel Aviv 67217, Tel. 03-5826630, Fax. 03-5826493
  - 24 Rehov Waizmann, Beit Ozen, 4th floor, rooms 41/42, Netanya, Tel. 09-622678, Fax. 09-623903
  - 4 Rehov Binyamin, 4th floor, Rehovot 76244, Tel. 08-9458013, Fax. 08-9458014
- Jerusalem**
  - 5 Rehov Even Yisrael, 1st floor, Jerusalem 94228, Tel. 02-242177, Fax. 02-242310
  - Lev Ashkelon Shopping Center, 40 Rehov Halistadrot, 2nd floor, Ashkelon 75641, Tel. 07-713034, Fax. 07-6715477
- Haifa**
  - 72 Derech Ha'atzma'ut, 2nd floor, Haifa 33035, Tel. 04-8669407, Fax. 04-8664220
  - 14 Qerech Acco, 1st floor, Kiryat Bialik 27093, Tel. 04-8710668, Fax. 04-8700187
- Southern Region**
  - Rehov Hapalmach, Onico Passage, 1st floor, Beersheba 84219, Tel. 07 234449, Fax. 07-234461
- Tel Aviv**
  - 53 Rehov Hamasger, 2nd floor, Tel Aviv 67217, Tel. 03-5826630, Fax. 03-5826493
  - 112 Qarech Petah Tikva, 2nd floor, Tel Aviv 67012, Tel. 03-5610131, Fax. 03-5620236
- Northern Region**
  - Kikar Magen David Adom, ground floor, Upper Nazareth 17257, Tel. 06-468882, Fax. 06-468810
- Judea and Samaria**
  - Civil Administration Building, P.O.B. 43, Beit El 90631, Tel. 02-9977786, Fax. 02-9977770, Office hours: Sun. - Thur., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
  - Coordination and Liaison Office - Hevel Azza P.O.B. 19, Mevo Azza, Tel. 07-741629, Fax. 07-892570
  - Office hours: Sun.-Thur., 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Office hours (except where otherwise stated): Sun. - Thur., 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Fri. 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.

To Home Owners who have joined the installments-plan campaign - A notice giving details of an alternative cash-payment plan is currently being published in the press.

## Green light for increased Postal Bank services

DAVID HARRIS

POST Office branches throughout the country can increase their direct banking services, if the commercial banks agree, following a decision by the supervisor of banks yesterday.

Acting as representatives of the banks, the branches will offer cash withdrawals and deposits. Negotiations are under way as to how many banking facilities will be offered to customers by the Postal Authority.

Initially, the additional services will be operated during the hours when banks are closed. By next year, it is expected the banks will work Sunday to Thursday, with post offices offering a selection of services on Fridays.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.

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## BUSINESS BRIEFS

**Electric Corp. launches 103 customer helpline:** In its continuing campaign to improve customer relations the Electric Corp. launched its 103 customer helpline yesterday. The 24-hour service includes a fault reporting line, regularly updated information on power cuts, and a variety of other details. A brief explanation of the 103 telephone number was included on customers' last bill. Not all information will be available throughout the night with some services closing at 3:30 p.m., including requests for new connections, and others at 11, for example notifications of address changes. *David Harris*

**Korean car manufacturer looking for local partner:** The head of the Korean Halla Group will visit in September in an attempt to find Israeli partners for a car components manufacturing enterprise. Halla has two subsidiary companies listed on the Seoul stock exchange: Halla Engineering and Construction Co. and Halla Cement Manufacturing Corp. The former posted a net profit of \$13.3 billion last year, while the latter recorded losses of \$13.4b. Halla is Korea's 15th largest corporate group with interests including shipbuilding, industrial plants and aerospace. *David Harris*

**Tadiran Communications to sell ware in Southeast Asia:** Tadiran Communications will supply \$24 million worth of military equipment and systems to countries in Southeast Asia, general manager Hezi Hermoni said yesterday. Since the start of the year Tadiran has received total export orders of \$170m. In 1995, its sales totaled more than \$100m. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

**Scottish trade mission has ideas for Israel:** A Scottish trade mission visiting Israel in the second week of July will recommend companies here use closed-circuit television cameras to improve production line efficiency. The Glasgow Chamber of Commerce group will arrive less than a month after the second Israel-Britain Business Council summit was held in Tel Aviv. Israel is Britain's second largest trading partner in the region after Saudi Arabia. *David Harris*

**Deutsche Telekom builds stake in Asia:** Deutsche Telekom yesterday signed an agreement to buy one-fifth of Malaysia's Technology Resources Industries Bhd, and said it wants to build a stake in Asia's huge telecommunications market. "Asia is going to be the most important market for telecommunications in the 21st century," Deutsche Telekom's management board chairman Ron Sommer said after signing the agreement with TRI chairman Tajudin Ramli. He also said the state-owned company is "thinking intensively" about listing on an Asian stock market. *Reuter*

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS				
Parib (foreign currency deposit rates) (20.6.96)				
Currency (deposit term)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$50,000)	4.00%	4.00%	4.25%	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.00%	4.00%	4.25%	
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.875%	1.875%	2.375%	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.00%	1.00%	1.25%	
Yen (¥1 million year)				

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (25.6.96)					
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rate**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.5741	3.5718	3.14	3.31	3.0228
German mark	2.0894	2.1282	2.05	2.18	2.1061
French franc	4.3265	4.3782	4.05	4.30	4.0767
Japanese yen (¥100)	1.8107	1.8287	1.80	1.84	1.8215
Dutch guilder (Gld)	2.8382	2.8859	2.88	3.03	2.9603
Swiss franc (100)	1.8945	1.8948	1.85	1.93	1.8790
Swedish krona	2.5348	2.5747	2.49	2.52	2.5045
Norwegian krona	0.4829	0.4907	0.47	0.50	0.4872
Denmark krone	0.4886	0.4974	0.48	0.51	0.4940
Italian lire (1,000)	0.5427	0.5515	0.53	0.56	0.5489
Finland mark	0.8995	0.9087	0.87	0.91	0.8935
Canadian dollar	2.3884	2.3965	2.31	2.43	2.3797
Australian dollar	2.5372	2.5782	2.49	2.62	2.5272
S. African rand	0.7382	0.7481	0.68	0.73	0.7422
Belgian franc (10)	1.0182	1.0316	0.99	1.05	1.0235
Austrian schilling (S)	2.8701	3.0181	2.91	3.08	2.9828
Indian Rupee (₹100)	2.1045	2.1179	2.04	2.15	2.1045
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.48	4.77	4.5299
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.90	0.98	0.9335
EU	3.8821	4.0291	—	—	3.9038
Irish punt	5.0728	5.1547	4.98	5.23	5.1083
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4897	2.5299	2.44	2.57	2.5056

\* These rates vary according to bank. \*\* Bank of Israel.  
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Compare Our Rates And Save	Andrew Peck (OTC)	Charles Schwab	Merrill Lynch
\$250 Stocks @ \$25	\$75	\$75	\$100
\$250 Stocks @ \$25	\$75	\$100	\$150
\$250 Stocks @ \$25	\$75	\$207	\$430
\$250 Stocks @ \$25	\$75	\$1230	\$2430

Source: Telephone quotes, May 1996

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Handwritten note: *06/26/96*



Key Representative Rates

US dollar ... NIS 2.2910 ... Sterling ... NIS 4.9767 ... Mark ... NIS 2.1061

ISRAELI STOCK MARKET

New York market indexes

Table with columns for index name, last price, and change. Includes DJ Industrial, NYSE, and NASDAQ.

NYSE stocks

Table listing NYSE stocks with columns for stock name, last price, and change.

Other stock market indexes

Table listing other stock market indexes like FTSE 100, Nikkei, and Hang Seng.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table listing Israeli stocks traded in NY with columns for stock name, last price, and change.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading sections with columns for stock name, price, change, and volume.

Main table of Tel Aviv stock market data, including multi-sided and two-sided trading lists.

TASE continues to be affected by interest rate hike

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET. ROBERT DANIEL. Two-Sided Index 200.49 -0.60%. Maof Index 211.80 -0.56%.

STOCK indexes fell for a second day after the Bank of Israel raised interest rates. The Maof Index fell 0.56 percent to 211.8, while the Mish-tanim Index fell 0.6% to 200.49.

FTSE drops again

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP. LONDON (Reuter) - Leading UK shares dropped to a three-month low, depressed by a weak futures market and ocean agito.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

THE PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK ON. SOURCE: ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices for various countries including New York, London, and Frankfurt.

NY stocks end mixed

WALL STREET REPORT. NEW YORK (AP) - Stocks ended mixed yesterday as some signs of weakness in consumer demand eased some inflation worries.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table showing currency cross-rates for Mark, Sterling, Yen, Sfr, and Ffr.

INFLATION MARKETS

Table of dollar crossrates and labor rates.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Future, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds. 34 Ben Yehuda St. Jerusalem.

INFLATION MARKETS

Table of US commodities.

Spot market metals (US)

Table of New York metal futures.

London metal futures

Table of London metal futures.



CRITIC'S CHOICE

THEATER

HELEN KAYE

WHEELCHAIR vets swim, play basketball, fly planes and act too...

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

NEIL Simon's Pulitzer prize-winning, 1991 Broadway hit, Lost in Yonkers...

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

MUSIC, theater and dance all combine in the final concert of Musica Nova...

BALLET

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

THERE are only two more opportunities to see England's Royal Ballet's stunning production...



The Royal Ballet's performances of 'Swan Lake' continue in Caesarea tonight and Saturday.

Mukhamedo

TELEVISION

RUTH KERN

TORREMOLINOS, Spain, was the focus of James Michener's typically ham-handed but encyclopedic treatment of international disaffected youth...

It has been a long time since individuals drifted into Torremolinos and other towns on the Costa del Sol...

The transformation of Torremolinos by mass tourism was explored last week in part 2 of the BBC series The Tourist...

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

8:30 News in Arabic 8:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Evolution 8:30 Looking at Antimicro 8:50 Stories of the Yishuv 9:10 English 9:30 Programs for children...

CHANNEL 2

15:31 Friends of Shush 15:50 Timeless Land 16:00 Heartbreak High 16:45 Zap to Dovele 16:59 A New Evening 17:34 News in English

ARABIC PROGRAMS

17:50 European Soccer Championships

HEBREW PROGRAMS

20:00 Mabat News 21:00 European Cup Soccer Championships 23:30 News 00:00 European Cup Soccer championship 00:20 Verse of the Day

CHANNEL 2

13:00 Halfway Across the Galaxy - sci-fi drama for children 13:30 Power Rangers 14:00 Star Trek 15:00 My Sea 15:30 Dave's World 16:00 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News magazine with Rafi Reshaf 17:30 Sport 18:00 Senora 18:58 The Crew - new comedy series about an airline company...

15:30 Hayzade 18:00 With an Investigative Eye 18:20 Mathematics in daily life 16:35 Great inventors 17:35 The Human Animal 18:30 Family Relations 19:00 Everything's Open 19:30 A Matter of Time 20:00 A New Evening (with Russian subtitles) 20:30 Basic Arabic 21:00 Zoro Hour 21:30 Mozart on Tour 22:30 History in the Making

FAMILY CHANNEL (3)

8:00 Falcon Crest (rpt) 9:00 One Life to Live (rpt) 9:45 The Young and the Restless (rpt) 10:30 Days of Our Lives (rpt) 11:20 Perla Negra (rpt) 12:10 Neighbors (rpt) 12:35 Dallas (rpt) 13:30 Starting at 13:10 14:05 21 Jump Street 14:55 Falcon Crest 15:50 Days of Our Lives 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Dallas 18:00 One Life to Live 18:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perla Negra 20:50 Melrose Place 21:40 Sisters 22:30 Under Suspicion 23:20 Wings 23:45 Melrose Place 00:35 Babylon 5 1:20 Hunter

JORDAN TV

WHERE TO GO

Notices in this feature are charged at NIS228 per line, including VAT. Insertion every day of the month costs NIS20.65 per line, including VAT, per month.

JERUSALEM Conducted Tours HEBREW UNIVERSITY, Tours of the Mount Scopus campus, in English, daily Sun-Thurs, 11 a.m. from 397 Prizmita...

TEL AVIV MUSEUM, Susan and Anton Roland-Rosenberg Collection 24 masterpieces by modern artists...

HAIFA WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

Jerusalem: Clal Pharm, 22 Kanief Nesharim, 651-0485; Balsam, Saiah e-Orin, 272319; Shualit, Shualit Road, 9100, Tel Aviv, Herod's Gate, 282058.

HAIFA: Tel Aviv: Brit, 28 King George, 528-3731; Kupat Haimon Clal, 74 Prizmita, 340657...

Upper Nazareth: Clal Pharm, Lev Hair Mall, 570468. Open 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Hadassah Ein Karem (internal, surgery, obstetrics, ophthalmology, ENT); Hadassah Mt. Scopus (orthopedics); Hadassah Zedek (pediatrics); Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery); Netanya: Lomado.

POLICE 100

FIRE 102

FIRST AID 101

Migron David Adom

In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Ashdod: 551333 Kfar Sava: 802222 Nahariya: 512333 BeerSheva: 274757 Netanya: 604444 Beit Shean: 521333 Pitha Tikva: 9311111

Dan Region: 5793333 Rehovot: 451333 Eilat: 352444

Rishon: 9542333 Haifa: 8512233 Safed: 520333 Jerusalem: 523133 Tel Aviv: 5400111 Kamel: 9884444

Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110

The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital, 8523205, for emergency calls 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning.

Emergency First Aid, 1201, also for: Jerusalem 610303, Tel Aviv 5481111 (children) 6981113, Haifa 8572222/3, BeerSheva 4945333, Netanya 6044444, Beit Shean 521333 Pitha Tikva: 9311111

Wizo hotlines for battered women 02-8514111, 03-5481133 (also in Russian), 07-376710, 05-508056 (also in Arabic).

Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 5234819, 5449181 (man), Jerusalem 250558, Haifa 8530333, Eilat 91877.

Medical Crisis Center, Israel-Cancer Association telephone support service 02-247675.

CABLE

ITV 3 (33)

17:00 Cartoons 17:30 On the Side of Justice 18:30 Discussion in Arabic 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Documentary in Russian on the town of Shimon 20:00 Arab News 20:45 If You Change Your Mind - documentary dealing with the ways in which drugs affect the mind 21:15 Overdose - Israeli feature film about the deterioration of a young woman from a good family, whose life goes on a downward spiral once she becomes addicted to drugs...

MIDDLE EAST TV

8:00 TV Shop 14:00 The 700 Club 14:30 Trade Winds (1938) - A debonair detective goes after a murder suspect. Starring Frederic March and Joan Bennett. (50 mins.) 16:05 Liban Passions 16:30 Dennis the Menace 16:55 Mask 17:20 Happiness 17:45 Hart to Hart 18:40 The A-Team 19:30 World News Tonight 20:00 CNN 20:30 Coach 20:55 Slickers 21:40 Star Quest 22:00 The 700 Club 23:05 Larry King Live 00:00 TV shop 2:00 Quantum Shopping 3:00 TV Shop

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 8:05 Poppocorn 8:30 Spiderman 9:05 Alvin and the Chipmunks (rpt) 9:35 Nils Holgerson (rpt) 10:05 Hangin' with Mr. Cooper (rpt) 10:35 California Dreams (rpt) 10:55 Saved by the Bell (rpt) 11:30 Wild Nature 12:00 Hard Times on Planet Earth 12:45 Alvin and the Chipmunks 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:35 Dracula's Mom Seigneur 14:00 Blinky Bill 14:35 Alvin and the Chipmunks 15:05 Nils Holgerson 15:35 Weird Science 16:05 California Dreams 16:30 Saved by the Bell 17:05 Beakman's World 17:30 Hard Times on Planet Earth 18:15 Alvin and the Chipmunks 18:35 Poppocorn (rpt) 19:00 Spiderman (rpt) 19:30 Three's Company 20:00 Married with Children 20:25 Roseanne 20:50 The Ren and Stimpy Show 21:05 Big Brother Jaka 21:30 Drop the Dead Donkey

SECOND SHOWING (5)

22:00 Scenes from a Marriage - part 5 22:50 Eva (1952) Eva becomes an unsuccessful writer and this causes his wife's tragic death. With Jean Moreau and Stanley Baker. Directed by Joseph Losey (104 mins.) 00:40 Norwood (1970) - a former Marine officer discovers the world outside the army in a series of adventures. With Glen Campbell. Directed by Jack Haley (94 mins.)

DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University 12:00 National Geographic Explorer (rpt) 13:00 Combat at Sea (rpt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 National Geographic Explorer (rpt) 17:00 Combat at Sea (rpt) 18:00 Open University 20:00 Future Quest 22:30 Ancient Warriors 23:00 The Wild South (rpt) 23:50 Open University (rpt)

SUPER CHANNEL

6:00 The Selina Scott Show 7:00 NBC News 7:30 ITN News 8:00 Today 10:00 SuperSport 11:00 European Money Wheel 18:00 Wall Street 17:00 US Money Wheel 18:30 FT Business Tonight 19:00 ITN News 19:30 Portraits of the Century 20:00 Europe 2000 20:30 The Selina Scott Show 21:30 DateLine 22:30 ITN News 23:00 PGA Golf 00:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 1:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien 2:00 Later with Greg Kinnear

STAR PLUS

6:00 Aerobics 6:30 Nanny and the Professor 7:00 Mr. Bachelor 7:30 Simply Delicious 8:00 El TV 8:30 Gabrielle 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Oprah Winfrey 12:00 Remington Steele 13:00 Simply Delicious 13:30 El TV 14:00 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles 14:30 The Black Stallion 15:00 Lost in Space 8:00 Home and Away 18:30 Entertainment Tonight 17:00 M\*A\*S\*H 17:30 Golden Girls 18:00 Empty Nest 18:30 NYPD Blue 19:30 Bold and the Beautiful 20:00 Santa Barbara 21:00 Hard Copy 21:30 The Extraordinary 22:30 Picket Fences 23:30

JERUSALEM CINEMATHEQUE Home for the Holidays 5 \* Animation Films: Shakespeare 7 \* The Marriage of Maria Braun 9:30 G.G. Gil Jerusalem Mail (Malha) = 788448 Grumpler Old Men/White Squall/Executive Decision 5, 7, 9, 15 \* Secret of Roan Inish 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 \* Executive Decision 9:45 \* Fargo 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 \* The Birdcage 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 \* Strange Days 4:30, 7:15, 10 \* Primal Fear 4:30, 7:15, 10 JERUSALEM THEATER 20, Mevas St. = 917167 Nelly et M. Aronow, 9:30 \* Before the Rain 7, 9:30 RAV CHEN 1-7= 782799 Credit Card Reservations= 794477 Rav-Mecher Building, 19 Ha'oman St., Tel Aviv and The Herod's Gate in a Blue Dress=7:30, 9:45, 11:55 \* Toy Story (English dialogue) 7:30, 9:45 \* Secret of Roan Inish 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 \* The Birdcage 4:45, 7:15, 9:45 \* Strange Days 4:30, 7:15, 10 \* Primal Fear 4:30, 7:15, 10 \* JERUSALEM THEATER 20, Mevas St. = 917167 Nelly et M. 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# Kfar Sava man tries to kill daughters, then kills himself

RAINE MARCUS

A Kfar Sava man committed suicide yesterday after attempting to murder his two teenage daughters. The girls, 14 and 17, suffered light neck wounds.

Early yesterday morning, the man's neighbors heard screams coming from his apartment. A neighbor broke in and found the girls in bed choking, with plastic cuffs tied around their necks. The neighbor succeeded in releasing the cuffs, and the girls were brought to Meir Hospital.

Residents called police, who launched a search for the father, who had fled. His body was found hanging in a nearby field by his 21-year-old son.

The father, publication of whose name is banned since the girls are minors, worked as a guard in the city's shopping mall, and was in the process of getting a divorce. Neighbors said the man "reached the end of his tether" when he discovered that his daughters had been seeing Arabs.

The older had fought with her father in the past, and had even lodged a complaint with police. The man reportedly told neighbors that he would kill himself, but had not threatened to murder his daughters.

The attempted double murder and subsequent suicide was also believed to be the result of constant quarreling between him and his estranged wife, police said.

"The whole incident is tragic," said Sharon police chief Dep.-Cmdr. Benny Kaniyak. "The son who found his father's body is in a deep state of shock and is undergoing psychiatric treatment." His wife was also in a "terrible state."

The man left a suicide note saying he could not stand the shame of his daughters hanging around with Arabs and that he could not see an end to the disputes with his wife.



Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, wearing a flak jacket and carrying an M-16 assault rifle, visits a forward position in the security zone yesterday. Next to him is OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, and Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i is second from left. (Defense Ministry)

## Bills call for abolishment of direct election of PM

LIAT COLLINS

TWO private member's bills calling for the abolishment of the system of direct election of the prime minister have been submitted to the Knesset.

One was submitted jointly by Uzi Landau (Likud) and Yossi Beilin (Labor), who worked together to try to reform the system before the elections, despite belonging to rival parties. The other is by Moshe Shahal (Labor). The bills call for repealing or amending the direct election clauses of the Basic Law: The Government.

The Beilin-Landau bill presents two options: one is that the leader of the party which wins the largest number of votes will be prime minister - basically the old system; the other is to elect the prime minister within the Knesset, much as the Speaker is chosen, with each faction presenting its candidate and a general vote in the plenum.

"The law has been tried and exactly what we warned would happen, happened," Beilin said yesterday. "The major parties were cut by a third; ideology became a joke; and party conventions were just shows. It makes no difference who won. The question is whether the system is a good one or not and we have seen even more serious problems than we predicted."

He said the reform had wide support from MKs from different parties, but it is not clear how the smaller parties would vote on such a bill, as they gained the most from the new system.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is in favor of the new system and reportedly has told Landau he will do everything possible to preserve it. But Landau criticized the current system for giving the prime minister and the small parties more power and destabilizing the Knesset. Shahal also said that instead of realizing its aim of reducing the amount of political bargaining by smaller parties, the direct election system has increased their power.

## Police seeking to hire more Arabs

BILL HUTMAN

THE police force is seeking to hire more Arabs to serve in east Jerusalem, to improve police operations and relations with the community, Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani said yesterday, during a tour of the police station near the Old City. But he was unable to say how he was going to convince Arabs to join the police force. Nearly all the city's Arab policemen resigned at the start of the intifada, and few have joined since.

## Mordechai: IDF will stay in zone as long as is necessary

DAVID RUDGE

THE IDF will remain in the security zone as long as it is necessary to protect northern communities and "our friends in the zone," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said yesterday during a visit to south Lebanon.

"If the Lebanese government and those behind it demonstrate the ability to prevent terror activities against the IDF and South Lebanese Army, then it would certainly be possible to sit together and reach agreements," said Mordechai.

"If only the Lebanese government was independent and showed ability to deal with the problems, then we could enter negotiations and find many solutions," he told reporters during a visit to the IDF and SLA's command headquarters in Marjayoun.

It was perhaps symbolic as well as significant that Mordechai made his first visit in the field as Defense Minister to Northern Command which he commanded for over four years, until 48-months ago.

His first stop was at Northern Command headquarters where he was greeted by honor guard. From there he flew by helicopter with Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Matan Vilna'i and OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine to a front-line IDF outpost in the eastern sector of the zone - not far from the spot where five Nahal soldiers were killed and eight others were wounded in a recent Hizbullah ambush.

Mordechai, armed with an M-16 assault rifle, then flew to Marjayoun to continue his review of the situation in the region in the wake of Operation Grapes of Wrath and Hizbullah's intensified operations against the IDF and SLA.

He was briefed about the latest situation by senior officers at an observation post on the roof of the Marjayoun command post, as

the blast of outgoing artillery fire reverberated in the background.

Mordechai made it clear that Israel would closely examine any breaches by Hizbullah of the Grapes of Wrath understandings.

"We will find the right ways to deal with Hizbullah and the other elements behind it. That's our task and mission to provide security to northern communities, while also minimizing risks to the IDF and SLA," said Mordechai.

He was asked whether the IDF would be given more freedom of action against Hizbullah. "My visit here is mainly to learn and understand the situation in the field, after Grapes of Wrath," said Mordechai.

"General Staff is drawing up recommendations and I expect that most of these will be approved. Everything will be done in this area to give maximum protection to the IDF and SLA and residents of the region, and especially to residents of northern communities," said Mordechai.

## Ministry to probe leading hematologist accused of withholding transfusion

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry is investigating accusations that the chief of hematology at Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital refused to grant treatment to a 19-year-old woman with lymphoma who needed a blood transfusion.

Ironically, Prof. Eliezer Rachmilevich, one of the country's leading experts in blood diseases, has also become the investigative target of *Ma'ariv* reporter Ronel Fisher. The hematologist is a member of the Navon Commission established as a result of Fisher's report on the Magen David Adom-Ethiopian immigrant blood affair of a few months ago.

The latest Fisher report involves Dassy Rabinowitz, a 19-year-old Efrat resident suffering from a severe case of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Her cancer of the lymph glands was discovered by Rachmilevich and she was treated at Hadassah for 18 months, undergoing chemotherapy and a bone-marrow transplant. The cancer returned, however, and her doctors told her parents the prognosis was poor.

The religious family then consulted with rabbis, who recom-

mended that "changing place changes fortune" and urged them to move her to another hospital.

Rabinowitz was transferred to Haifa's Rambam Hospital, where she was treated for several weeks by Prof. Ya'acov Rao, head of hematology, and his staff. But in mid-May, back in Efrat, she took a turn for the worse. Relatives called Hadassah and asked Rachmilevich to admit her for an urgent blood transfusion, because it was too far to Haifa in her condition.

According to Fisher and quoted yesterday by Rabinowitz's mother, Bruria, the Hadassah doctors and nurses said they had "strict orders" from Rachmilevich not to admit her, "because she had gone to Rambam for a second opinion."

The young woman received a transfusion at Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital the next day.

On Sunday, Rachmilevich wrote a letter denying the charges to Amnon Rabi of *Ma'ariv*. In the letter, Rachmilevich said that Rao - his former student - did provide him with Rabinowitz's latest medical information. He wrote that on May 2, Rabinowitz arrived at his department unannounced and to receive antibiotics and a blood transfusion. She was treated, even though Rambam had not transferred to Hadassah a report of how she had been treated since leaving Hadassah.

On May 14, Rachmilevich wrote, he got a call from a "man who identified himself as Dassy's father." The man said the young woman had a very low thrombo-

cyte count and asked if she could come in for a transfusion. Rachmilevich said he referred the man to Rao, since he lacked the latest medical information about her case and might be endangering her if she received inappropriate treatment.

Rachmilevich said the caller then "told me a joke and closed the conversation saying, 'You'll hear from me again' - and abruptly hung up the phone." He did not give me the opportunity to explain the importance of orderly medical referrals. Presenting the story as if we had refused her medical treatment at Hadassah is ugly and untrue."

Rachmilevich said he learned the man's name, who called "was not Dassy's father," and believes the conversation was recorded without his knowledge. The hematologist said he does not know whether the caller was the *Ma'ariv* investigative reporter, but that "misquotes" of his comments had later been used by Fisher in his report.

Rachmilevich told his staff after the May 2 transfusion that it could be dangerous if "another were given without the necessary medical information from Rambam, and that if Rabinowitz appeared in the hospital again, they should first consult with him. But he stressed that if she had turned up asking for an urgent transfusion - instead of someone else calling before - she would have gotten one despite the possible risk. Going to another hospital for a second opinion is every patient's "legitimate right," he added.

The ministry's investigating committee is to present its findings within two weeks.

### WEATHER

Haifa	21-32
Tel Aviv	22-29
Jerusalem	21-34
Beer Sheva	21-37
Dead Sea	29-40
Eilat	27-44
Tiberias	24-37
Akko	20-35
Samartha	21-34

Forecast: Clear and hot. Dry in the hills, hazy along the coast.

### AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	
Amsterdam	10	15	cloudy
Berlin	10	15	cloudy
Chicago	10	15	clear
Copenhagen	10	15	clear
Frankfurt	10	15	cloudy
Geneva	10	15	cloudy
Helsinki	10	15	cloudy
Hong Kong	10	15	clear
Jakarta	10	15	clear
London	10	15	clear
Los Angeles	10	15	clear
Madrid	10	15	clear
Moscow	10	15	cloudy
New York	10	15	cloudy
Paris	10	15	cloudy
Rome	10	15	clear
Stockholm	10	15	clear
Tokyo	10	15	clear
Vienna	10	15	clear
Zurich	10	15	cloudy

### Winning cards and numbers

IN yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 8 of spades, ace of hearts, 9 of diamonds, and 8 of clubs.

In last night's weekly Lotto drawing, the winning numbers were 3, 4, 7, 29, 34, 36 and the additional number was 48.

## Bereaved family petitions appointment of new IDF officers' school chief

EVELYN GORDON

AN officer who is under indictment for negligence in the death of one of his soldiers should not be the new head of the IDF's officer training school, a petition to the High Court of Justice said yesterday.

The petition was filed by Masoud and Aliza Shushan, whose son Yanai was killed in a training accident in Givat Adar two years ago. Yanai was killed when a grenade he was carrying in his kit exploded during an exercise. The army appointed an investigating judge to look into the affair, and the judge concluded that had the army applied the lessons learned from another accident a few months earlier, Yanai might not have been killed.

On the basis of this report, the Judge Advocate-General's Office decided to indict five officers, including Col. Horev, who commanded Yanai's brigade. The trial is due to begin shortly.

A few days ago, however, Horev was appointed to head the IDF's officer training school.

The petition argued that it is inconceivable to entrust someone charged with negligently causing the death of one of his men with the job of training other young officers.

It noted that according to the investigating judge's findings, Horev never instructed his officers and men on the proper procedures for exercises with live grenades. According to Horev, this oversight occurred because he did not even know that such instructions existed.

When told that soldiers are supposed to inspect their grenades daily, however, he responded that in his opinion, this is not practical, and once a week is sufficient.

"The mind cannot comprehend that such a senior officer, who did not know and did not hear and did not see - who is suspected of causing the death of one of the soldiers in his unit and who is about to stand trial for this - should hold so important and responsible a position," the petition said.

The fact that the army has given him this job despite the pending trial raises the suspicion that it has already fixed things so that he will be acquitted, the petition added.

### THE WAY WE WERE...

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